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THE TIMES

The young lions
of Soweto, by
Helen Suzman, p 12

India relaxes emergency hold March election

India is to hold a general election in March. Mrs Gandhi announced yesterday. The Prime Minister's surprise news included a relaxation of the emergency laws but they will not be lifted. A number of jailed political leaders were freed, including Mr Morarji Desai, the Deputy Prime Minister, but oppositionists have reacted cautiously.

Mr Desai among the politicians freed

Mr Desai, the Deputy Prime Minister, was among the 100 political prisoners freed by Mrs Gandhi's government yesterday. The Prime Minister's surprise announcement that the emergency laws would be relaxed but not lifted, and that a general election would be held in March, was met with cautious optimism. Mr Desai, who has been in prison since 1975, was one of the most prominent figures released. Other notable names include Mr Jagjivan Ram, a senior Congress leader, and Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, a member of the opposition. The move was seen as a significant step towards normalcy, though some opposition groups remain wary of the government's intentions.

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Churchmen move a step nearer unity

By our Religious Affairs Correspondent

Under certain conditions the Anglican Communion would be willing to accept the Pope as universal primate in a united church, according to an official statement from a team of Anglican and Roman Catholic theologians, published today.

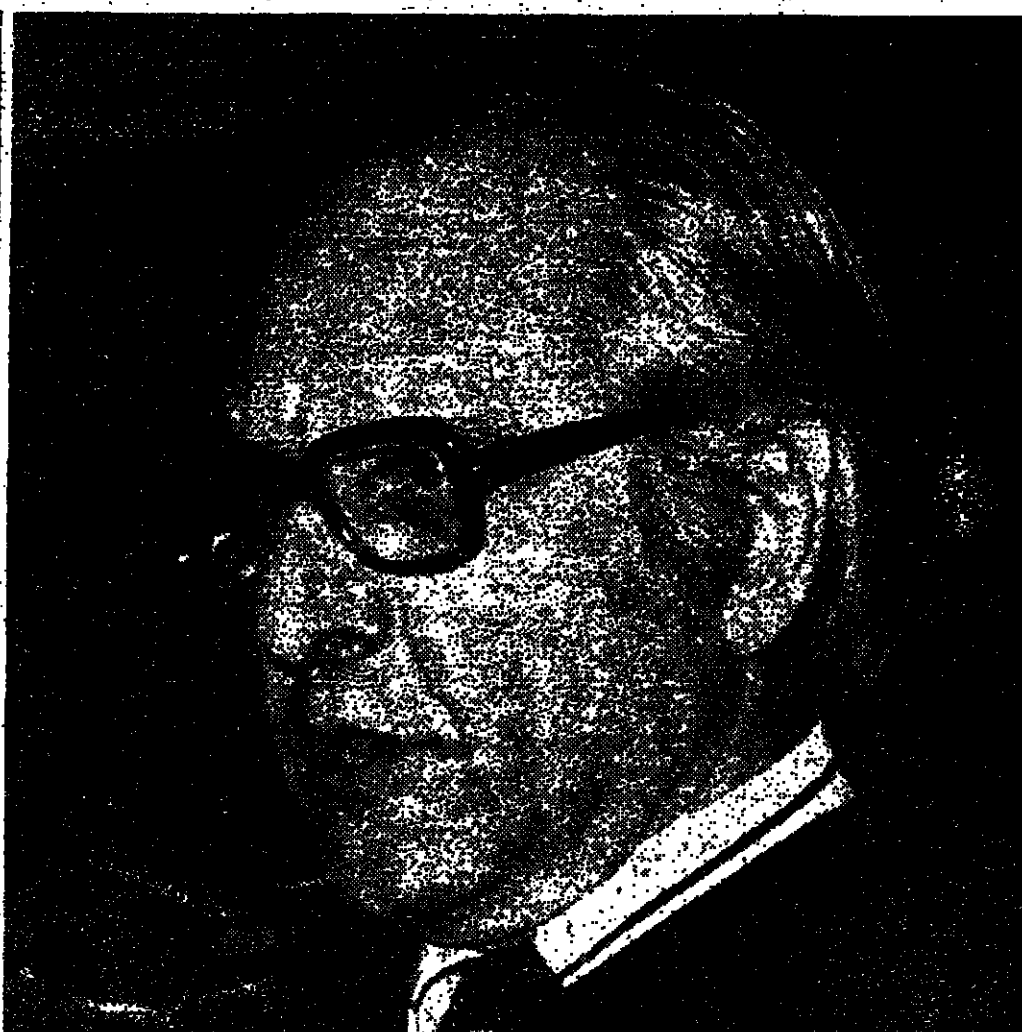
But the Anglican Communion would expect the papal authority to be balanced by greater participation in the government of the church by bishops, clergy, and laity.

The statement is the product of nearly ten years of joint study by experts from both churches. They regard it as an historic document. They have already announced agreement on two other disputed issues, Holy Communion and the priesthood, but the question of authority proved the most difficult. The Pope was crucial in the sixteenth century break between the Church of England and Rome. It has remained an unbridgeable difference for the past 400 years.

The statement, published with the approval of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Coggan, and Pope Paul VI, says that the theologians found a convergence of belief to their surprise. It led to a consensus on fundamental principles which was applicable to both sides.

Certain terms of Roman Catholic belief, such as papal infallibility, continue to cause "grave difficulties" to Anglicans. The theologians claim, however, to have found enough common ground for outstanding differences to be resolved, and meanwhile call for a new spirit in relations.

The prospect should be met with faith, not fear, the Anglican and Roman Catholic co-chairmen said. The statement was presented to the Anglican Communion's Lambeth conference at Lambeth Palace, London, yesterday. The Anglican Church had traditionally emphasized the primacy of the Bishop of Rome while the Roman Catholic Church had emphasized the primacy of the Pope. The statement was a significant step towards reconciliation between the two churches.



Mr Silkin, the Attorney General, leaving after addressing the Court of Appeal.

Mr Silkin declines to explain to court his view on post ban

By Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent

Mr Silkin, QC, the Attorney General, told the Court of Appeal yesterday that it is not entitled to examine his reasons for refusing to give his consent to an action aimed at stopping the proposed Post Office workers' ban on postal services to South Africa.

My conduct is not that of a dictator, not open to challenge, he said. "If I am wrong, I am answerable to Parliament and to the public, but not to the courts." He said he was not prepared to give his reasons for his decision to the court, but he was prepared to give his reasons to Parliament. He said he was not prepared to give his reasons for his decision to the court, but he was prepared to give his reasons to Parliament.

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Mr Silkin's decision was a significant one, as it would allow the Post Office to proceed with its plan to ban postal services to South Africa. The decision was met with criticism from human rights groups, who argued that it was a violation of international law.

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£164m expansion will boost brewery jobs

Allied Breweries announced an investment programme of at least £164m over the next two years which, the company said, would create "hundreds of new jobs". The company considered the time ripe for capital investment which would be centred on existing breweries at Burton, Wrexham and Alton. News of the investment was welcomed by Mr Jack Jones, of the transport workers' union, who said he hoped other companies would follow Allied's "splendid example". Priority in the investment programme is to be given to export growth in the group's wines and spirits division, but lagering capacity will be raised as well. Page 17

Rail toll climbs in Sydney

Rescuers who last night had taken 36 bodies from a Sydney commuter train crushed by a falling road bridge feared at least 50 more dead still lay in the wreckage, and that the final disaster toll could be the worst in Australia's history. The crash occurred when the morning peak-hour express ploughed through the supports of the bridge, which fell 30ft on to the crowded carriages. Page 7

Yugoslav leader dies in air crash

Mr Bjedlic, the Yugoslav Prime Minister, was killed yesterday, together with his wife and six other people, when their eight-seater jet aircraft crashed in a snowstorm west of Sarajevo. He was on his way to address a meeting of the party Central Committee in Sarajevo. Page 7

More harbour bodies found

The Barcelona harbour death toll rose to 44 yesterday as fishermen recovered more bodies of American sailors and marines who were in the launch which capsized on Monday. The total may go as high as 50. Page 7

India struggle to save Test

India, needing 284 to beat England, have scored 45 for three and face a struggle to save the third Test. Indian officials have discussed the Lever affair and are to pass their findings on to Lord's. Page 10

Police called as prisoner escorts

Police officers escorted remand prisoners from Leicester jail to courts after prison staff had refused the duty as part of their industrial action in demand for a public inquiry into security at Leicester. Page 2

Leader page, 15

Letters: On censorship by industrial action, from Mr David Astor, and others; on the release of Abu Daoud, from Mr Alistair Horne; and on a virginal romance, from Mr John Vane-Tynte, and others. Leading articles: The economic outlook; Elections for India. Diary, page 14. Remote Cornish village gets mains electricity at last—and how it has survived without it. Arts, page 11. Jeffery Daniels on a Paris exhibition of Paul de Chavannes; John Higgins on Claudio Abbado recording Simon Boccanegra; Irving Wardle on Sephora Tabbal (Apollo Theatre); William Munn on Tancrède (Queen Elizabeth Hall). Obituary, page 16. Sir David Watkinson Mr Douglas Heston, Sir Anthony Sher, and Adam Fox, Mr Desmond Bilezikian. Features, pages 12, 14. Pearce Wright on the complex

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Yland workers warned over failure cash in on Car of the Year award

ford Webb

ated failure to meet our-gets was preventing Ley-ers benefiting from the f the Year award for Rover 3500, the com-posed shop stewards at its Bromwich body plant ey.

ayland executive said y: "It is damned ing to say the least. we are with the first car ever to win the and we are still turning in penny numbers. The tion must be laughing way to the bank."

uction of bodies for the h saloon is as much as cent below targets, at they were set by ant with shop stewards eight months after the s launched at a cost of the new assembly factory hall is turning out fewer 00 cars a week, mainly e of Castle Bromwich's to supply enough bodies. result, launch dates have been postponed in several s markets where motor-

ists are queuing to buy the car, described as "the most exciting new model produced in Britain for over 20 years". So promising is the demand that Leyland has given the car the role of spearheading its drive into such difficult markets as West Germany.

Mr Derek Whitaker, managing director of Leyland Cars, has ordered a strong line in talks with shop stewards at Castle Bromwich. He is particularly annoyed because £16m was spent jointly at Swindon (pressings) and Castle Bromwich (body assembly) to modernize facilities.

In addition the Castle Bromwich lines have already been manned up to produce about 650 bodies a week. Well advanced plans to introduce a night shift have been postponed indefinitely.

This action has been accompanied by a clear warning to shop stewards that the company has no intention of adding a night shift until it is obtaining an acceptable level of productivity from the existing labour force.

With overseas sales going begging and a six-month waiting time on the home market, Mr Whitaker is coming under increasing pressure to get the car out at any cost. But concessions of this kind have too frequently reduced profit margins on new models by saddling them with unacceptable labour costs.

Meanwhile the new Solihull assembly plant is limping along with two assembly lines manned to produce close to 900 cars a week. Like Castle Bromwich, it too has plans for a night shift which would lift production to around 1,400 a week and ultimately to the planned capacity of 2,000.

With a smaller-engined version of the Rover 3500 soon to replace the ageing Triumph 2500 2000 and the Rover 2200, time is running out.

At the end of day-long talks between management and Castle Bromwich shop stewards, a company spokesman said last night: "There were constructive discussions and these will continue."

Mr Doug Heston, the Scot who climbed the south-west face of Everest in 1975 with Mr Doug Scott, was killed by an avalanche yesterday while skiing alone above Lesylin in the Swiss Alps.

After an all-night search by rescue teams, his body was found this afternoon. He was, apparently, killed instantly on the steep slope of the 6,500ft Mount Riondaz, while on his way down to the Luiseis Pass.

It was the type of accident about which skiers are repeatedly warned after heavy snowfalls. Mr Heston was not following a marked piste (track).

According to one of his friends, Mr Alan Rankin, a Canadian who keeps a hotel at Lesylin, he had taken a ski lift up the Riondaz and then climbed to the top for his run. The search, by 50 men and six avalanche dogs, started soon after it became obvious in darkness that Mr Heston was long overdue. At 10 o'clock last night, one of the search teams found the site of the avalanche, with ski tracks visible in the snow above it.

The avalanche had carried Mr Heston down the slope. His body was found under 6ft of snow. Mr Heston, who was 35, came from Edinburgh, where he studied philosophy. He decided in 1966 to become a professional mountaineer. The same year, he took part



Mr Heston: skiing alone.

with an American climber, Mr Jean Harlin, in the first direct ascent in winter of the north face of the Eiger. Mr Harlin was killed on the climb. Mr Heston and his wife Anne later took over the mountaineering school which the American had established at Lesylin.

He climbed the south face of Annapurna in 1970 with Mr Don Williams. This year, he was preparing for an ascent of K2 (Mount Godwin Austen) in the Himalayas.

In another similar accident today, a 29-year-old ski instructor at Laax in the Grisons died when hit by an avalanche.

The crowd threatened several people on the pavement, apparently believing them to be plain clothes policemen—and they manhandled two American reporters when one of them produced a camera.

Stoppage at 'The Times' condemned

The stoppage at The Times last Thursday was condemned in an emergency statement by the Press Council yesterday. The action of some printing-room unionists who objected to a report of an article by Mr David Astor criticizing newspaper unions amounted to censorship, the statement said.

The council said it had received no complaint but the parties involved were given an opportunity to put their views before its complaints committee.

The committee noted that Mr William Rees-Mogg, editor of The Times, had told objectors they would be given the same right of reply in a subsequent issue which The Times normally gave to those criticized in the newspaper. Mr Owen O'Brien, general secretary of the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel, expressed his union's opposition to any censorship of the press.

The council's statement says: Over the past 24 years the Press Council has made available to the public a complaints procedure which provides an appeal against the decision of any editor of any newspaper or periodical who refuses redress to an aggrieved member of the public. The council appreciates that members of a trade union in the newspaper industry may consider themselves to have a special concern in the publication of material of which they are critical in that they service part of the means of publication. They enjoy no privileged position. In fact their rights are no greater, but no less, than those of the general public; in common with other members of the public they are entitled to an assurance that, where appropriate, prompt and impartial consideration will be given by the Press Council to any complaint made by individuals, chapels or unions. The investigation of such complaints is carried out by the council's complaints committee. A statement issued by the Press Council following such an inquiry receives wide publicity in the newspaper concerned and elsewhere. The terms of the statement are much more than an expression of opinion upon the conduct of the

Thousands riot in Cairo after steep food price increases

Robert Fisk

Jan 18

"Nasser—Nasser" and "there can be no liberalization without food?" The authorities here said tonight that police stations in the Cairo elum quarter near Al Azhar University had been set on fire, while unconfirmed reports from Alexandria said that Egyptian regular troops had been sent into the city to control crowds of rioting dock workers.

Because of the disturbances, colleges and schools all over Egypt are to be closed for two days.

The battles in Cairo, which started at 5 pm, had been foreseen by the Government, which put military guards on banks and post offices during the morning in case of looting. But it is doubtful if it realized that the rioting would be on such a scale.

At one point, several thousand students and workers, yelling slogans against President Sadat and his Government, came close to breaking into the grounds of the People's Assembly—Cairo's white-stone Parliament building—until riot police began to shower them with teargas grenades.

The price increases caused an angry exchange in the Assembly yesterday when they were announced by Mr Salah Hamed, the Finance Minister. The controversy arose not only because of the increase itself—rice, for example, went up by 16 per cent—but because the Government also chose the same moment to announce increases in the salaries and pensions of civil servants.

The price of sugar has risen to 25p per kilo, petrol goes up by 31 per cent and gas cylinders—there is no mains gas in Egypt—by as much as 45 per cent. Most workers here take home only £46 sterling a month while President Sadat—in the eyes of his opponents—has been allowing the rich to take advantage of the new economic liberalization symbolised by his "open door" policy of foreign investment.

The protests today started in Helwan where steel workers stoned cars and buses before ordering lorry drivers to take them to Cairo. By the time they reached the Corniche beside the River Nile and the dual carriageway along Kasr el-Aini Street, where the American University has its faculties, more than 2,000 students from four colleges had gathered in the surrounding roads. The assembly buildings are only 100 yards from the university's main entrance and within minutes the policemen behind

HOME NEWS

Jail remands for girls aged under 15 to be ended in March

By Penny Symon

The Government is to go some way towards meeting concern about the remanding of juveniles to adult prisons and remand centres by stopping remands for girls under 15 from March 15.

An order under the Children and Young Persons Act, 1969, was laid before Parliament yesterday by Mr. Reg. H. H. Secretary, Courts, who will no longer have the power to issue a certificate of unfitness in respect of any girl under 15. If she is considered by a court to be unsuitable for bail she will become the responsibility of the local authority while on remand.

Although the numbers of girls aged 14 who have been remanded to adult prisons and remand centres are small, many local authorities are bound to be worried now that the responsibility for finding secure accommodation for them is theirs.

Pressure for space is particularly acute in London, but the Government believed that it would be wrong to hold up implementation of a vital reform because of a difficulty in one part of the country.

Some buildings that would provide secure accommodation for girls, or for girls and boys, in observation and assessment centres are being built or about to be started in London. But they are affected by the present financial constraints.

Magistrates who are anxious that juveniles should not be

South Wales backs NCB retirement scheme

By Tim Jones

Momentum for a rejection of the National Coal Board's offer on early retirement for miners' workmen slackened yesterday when the South Wales coalfield decided overwhelmingly to accept the proposed scheme.

Delegates at a meeting in Cardiff voted against acceptance. South Wales, considered a militant area, had been expected to vote with the NCB.

The South Wales area of the National Union of Mineworkers has always insisted that surface workers should be included in the scheme, which will give miners retirement at 62 from August 1, reducing to 60 in mid-1979. There will be 250,000 miners on January 26 and 27.

Mr. Emylv Williams, president of the South Wales miners, said yesterday that an assurance that the union's executive that negotiations would be held on including surface workers in the scheme had strongly influenced their decision.

The decision strengthened speculation that the union as a whole will vote decisively in favour of the deal in the ballot.

Mr. Lawrence Dely, the union's general secretary, said yesterday that most older surface workers were covered by the proposed retirement plan.

TUC warning over 'cheap energy' policy

Mr. Frank Chapple, chairman of the TUC fuel and power industries committee, gave a warning yesterday that Britain would pay dearly by the end of the century if she tried to do things on the cheap.

He said it was not always wise to go for the cheapest fuel; it could cause economic difficulties later, particularly when supplies ran out. The unions wanted a say in energy policy and were pressing for a substantial TUC representation on the proposed energy commission.

Mr. Chapple, general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union, told the Shell Mex Fuels luncheon club in London: "We are not prepared to rescue the formula of energy policy from the market place, day to day, as it is being over by bureaucrats in Whitehall and removed from the public domain."

"Trade unionists do not consider that in such a vital sector as energy the forces of the market place will lead to the best decisions on investment, research and development."

"In the recent past fuel policy in Britain has taken the passive form of exploiting the fuel with the cheapest current price in the market place and neglecting the development of other sources."

"Such a policy causes great economic difficulties later when supplies of cheap energy are exhausted or interrupted and alternative domestic sources have been run down."

"The latest example of this danger was the difficulty caused by the sudden quadrupling of crude oil prices three years ago. The mining unions have been pointing to this possibility since the early 1960s."

He urged the building of

more coal-fired power stations and an early government decision on the proposed Drax B station. He said the latter programme must be started now if coal from the large Selby field was to be marketed in the early 1980s.

He said that failure by the Central Electricity Generating Board to commit itself to a steady ordering pattern would lead to unemployment and to a loss of generating equipment.

The energy crisis would begin to bite in the 1990s and it was imperative to determine policies for transport until the end of the century and beyond. Mr. Ray Buckton, general secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, told the Chartered Institute of Transport yesterday.

At the turn of the century there should be a widening gap between the United Kingdom's

Jail protes puts extra burden on police

By Clive Borrell

The police were ca Leicester prison yesterday after nearly two disciplinary prison staff refused to escort them in action in protest at the Secretary's refusal to independent inquiry.

Prison staff at Leice got their action at be time yesterday, and ref supervise workshops. Se were also refused ac their clients inside the

A week ago Thomas Hughes escaped from while being escorted Leicester prison to Chas Magistrates' Court. He a both prison officers acci him and later on four people in the Der village of Eastmoor be: was cornered and shot police men.

The staff at Leicec no indication yesterday long their industrial would last, despite from executive members Prison Officers' Associa cooperate with Mr. Fowler, the Chief Inspe Prisons, who has been ted by Mr. Rees, the Ho reary, to investigate t dent and the general conditions at the pris prison staff have said th co-operate unless a pendent person is appoi conduct the inquiry.

Several prison offic they came off duty las said their protest cou indefinitely. One said: "a prison depe inquiry will whitewash issues."

Knife was missed: officers at Leicester kne a long bone-handled kni missing from the jail i when William Hughes le taid (our Leicester Cor: dent writes).

It was disclosed las that Hughes had work kitchen in the jail dur remand. One of the officers said: "When th was missed we knew cerned because we knew I as a dangerous man."

"An officer asked for scale search, which is n and it would have meant prisoner being locked u then a thorough search m every cell. The request fused by an officer b governor's rank. A r search, however, did place."

Rebuke for critic of the Duke

By Our Parliamentary Correspondent

A Labour MP, Mr. James Lamond (Oldham, East), was rebuked by the Speaker in the House of Commons yesterday for his "impudent and ill-advised" comments made by the Duke of Edinburgh about the British people's dependence on state aid.

Mr. George Thomas, the Speaker, said it was the established custom that MPs spoke with respect of members of the Royal Family.

When Mr. Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, remarked: "He has no respect for workers," the Speaker commented: "All I am asking for is courteous language."

Mr. Lamond asked the Prime Minister whether his talks with the TUC would be impeded by speeches, impudent enough to suggest that less attention should be paid to the deprived and underprivileged.

Mr. Callaghan replied cautiously that he was not sure how far the Speaker's ruling went but that there was no ministerial responsibility for speeches by the Duke, and he did not intend to assume any. He did not think such speeches would have an impact, whoever made them, on the great understanding between the Government and the union movement.

The Duke made his remarks in an article in the magazine Director. He was giving his views on the state of the nation "Arrogance": Earlier yesterday the Duke was criticized by Labour MPs (the Press Association reports).

Mr. Tom Listerick, MP for Birmingham, Selly Oak, said: "The Duke thinks Toryism is normal human nature. As one of the best-kept social security claimants in the country I think he ought to have spoken with a better sense of responsibility. His statement is straight out of Queen Victoria's age. It is arrogant."

Mr. Michael English (Nottingham, West), said: "His wife has complete exemption from income tax because she is the eldest living descendant of the Electress Sophia of Hanover. I presume therefore that Prince Philip will advocate that some of his family's tax privileges, based solely on inheritance, should be given up to help others less fortunate."

Mrs. Colquhoun (Northampton, North), said: "He has become rather a British joke, the kind of anachronism the country has to live with."

Parliamentary report, page 8

Minister pledges Commons statement on vaccine

Mr. Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, is to make a full statement on vaccination to the Commons soon because of controversy over brain damage caused to vaccinated children. He has been much questioned by MPs about the dangers of whooping cough vaccine.

He told Mr. Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch and Lynton, in a written reply yesterday: "I am seeing Sir Charles Stuart-Harris, chairman of the joint committee on vaccination and immunisation, on Wednesday, and shortly thereafter I shall be making a full statement on vaccination to the House."

Sir Idwal Pugh, the Ombudsman for Health, agreed on Monday to study individual cases of children who had suffered brain damage after being given whooping cough vaccine.

Unions set to close university

By Christopher Thomas

Trade unions say they are prepared to allow Birmingham University to close unless demands for improved holidays for technicians are met.

The Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) says it plans to intensify picketing of the university to stop supplies. Mr. Reginald Bird, the national officer, said last night: "We know they have no oil, and coal stocks are almost exhausted."

The university, however, says fuel stocks are "fairly high" and that there will be no difficulty "if there is an early spring."

The Transport and General Workers' Union has told members not to cross picket lines, although the university says many have done so.

The university says the dispute is over a claim by the ASTMS for seven weeks' holiday for technicians. That was decided by the union, which says the claim is for four weeks.

Niney-nine technicians have been on strike at Birmingham for some months. The action has stopped the main computer.

NFU attack on 'green pound abuse'

By George Clark

Political Correspondent

Abuse of the EEC "green currency" arrangements is destroying the confidence of British farmers, Mr. Richard Butler, deputy president of the National Farmers' Union, told the House of Lords select committee on the "green pound" yesterday. Evidence was heard from farmers and consumers' representatives.

"On entry into the Community, the United Kingdom accepted common pricing and the other basic principles of the common agricultural policy (CAP)," Mr. Butler said. "Other European countries regarded this as a serious commitment, and so did British farmers. On this basis, there was confidence about the long-term prospects of British agriculture and our farmers were encouraged to consider investment in expansion."

Those prospects had changed. The British Government had adopted most of the mechanisms of the CAP while, through the operation of the green pound, it had retained national control over price levels. Producers saw little gain in a system that had little regard for the needs of British agriculture.

"The intention of the Com-

munity was that green rates should be brought gradually into line with real rates and that should remain the objective," he said. "Last year the Government refused to adjust the green pound despite the rapid depreciation of sterling, which has caused a serious loss of income to British farmers. This has created a very disturbing situation for British farmers."

It was now accepted that a change in the green pound rate would have only a relatively small effect on the general cost of living. "Even so, we cannot deny that there would be some effect, and in calling for green rate adjustments, we are mindful of the national need to keep down short-term inflationary pressures."

"For the present we are asking only that the rate shall be set at such a level as will enable producers to earn the funds necessary to finance investment for the kind of expansion described in the Government's White Paper, Food from Our Own Resources. We ask that, as far as possible, the green pound issue should be taken out of politics."

In a memorandum to the committee, the NFU stated:

"In the long term there can be no justification for maintaining any gap between the pound's underlying real value and the value which is used for converting Community institutional prices into sterling equivalents. To do so is to court the danger of distorting the optimum allocation of resources in British agriculture, and in a period of declining sterling values, to deny the industry the opportunity to expand its import-saving role."

Dr. William Roberts, head of public affairs, Consumers' Association, disagreed with the NFU's view that it would be preferable to move to a system whereby the European Commission automatically adjusted the green pound rate to match the changes in currency values.

The present green pound gap was about 40 per cent. To eliminate that, which was what the EEC Commission was aiming for, would increase the United Kingdom farm price for butter by about the same amount.

He submitted figures indicating that in 1977 the price of a pound of butter would go up by 23p from the transitional arrangements and allowing for the reduction of subsidy and a 4 per cent green pound devaluation.



The Duchess of Kent with shipyard workers after a launching at Sunderland yesterday.

Move to curb Scots MPs' Commons role

By Our Political Staff

Mr. Douglas Henderson, Scottish National Party MP for Aberdeenshire, East, tabled an amendment yesterday to the devolution Bill to bar Scottish MPs from discussing and voting on exclusively English matters when the Scottish assembly is set up.

The SNP had proposed the move in an effort to soothe English complaints that too many Scottish MPs would still be sent to Westminster to help to make decisions on English matters.

The proposal might embarrass the Labour Party. Ministers have not disputed the suggestion that 71 Scottish MPs have to remain at Westminster because many are Labour members.

Derailment was caused by speeding, report says

By a Staff Reporter

The biggest share of responsibility for the Nuneaton train crash on June 6, 1975, must lie with the locomotive's driver, Mr. John McKay, according to the official report on the disaster, which is published today. Six people lost their lives in the crash and 38 were injured, 10 of them seriously.

Mr. McKay was charged at Birmingham Crown Court last June with manslaughter. After a three-day trial he was found not guilty.

The report adds that Mr. McKay should not carry the responsibility alone. "All those who failed to use the warning-board propane gas equipment as it should have been used must share some of the responsibility," it states.

The report concludes that the accident took place because the 23.20 Euston to Glasgow night sleeper train was driven at a speed of about 80mph over a section of track subject to a speed restriction of 20mph.

Information about the speed restriction was correctly published in a printed notice for

drivers. In addition, warning boards, speed indicators and termination of restriction indicators were correctly sited. At the warning board, however, the propane gas equipment used for illuminating the sign was improperly used.

Because of a failure of the gas mantle the warning board light went out at about 22.30 on June 5. Drivers whose trains preceded the 23.20 Euston to Glasgow sleeper saw that the warning-board light was out but none of them reported it, as they should have done, according to the rules laid down for drivers.

Mr. McKay maintained in evidence, the report says, that he was keeping a careful watch for the warning board. When he saw no sign of it he concluded that the speed restriction had been lifted, and continued at speed towards Nuneaton. "If he had made such a decision it was this that led directly to the derailment," the report says.

Report on the Derailment that occurred on June 6, 1975, at Nuneaton (Stationery Office, £1.60).

Government win on earnings by pensioners

The Government yesterday survived an attack on its proposal to keep the earnings rule for retirement pensioners at £35 after next April.

In a Commons standing committee on the Social Security (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill voting was seven to seven on the issue. The chairman, Mr. Bonner Pink, Conservative MP for Portsmouth, South, gave his casting vote in support of the Bill.

The Conservatives, with the support of the only Liberal on the committee, Mr. Cyril Smith, were trying to amend the provisions so that the earnings rule of £50, approved previously by Parliament, would become effective in April.

The Government now intends to relax the figure to earnings, and it is expected to be made about £41 next November.

Mr Prentice says Labour candidates will defy whips

By David Leigh

Political Staff

Mr. Reg Prentice, who has been purposefully talking to non-Labour organizations since he resigned as a Cabinet minister, told the Tory Reform Group yesterday that several Labour candidates at the next election would campaign on a platform of defying the whips.

The left-wing tone of the last party conference was unacceptable to many, he said, and some of his colleagues would be unable to accept more extreme parts of a manifesto based on it.

That prospect is the mildest outcome, Mr. Prentice sees of the present political situation. He told the centrist Reform Group that perhaps he should, in retrospect, have resigned earlier from the Government.

Although he refused to respond to appeals for a leader to come forward and break the party mould, Mr. Prentice said a national crisis might come upon us at any time. The more discussions between like-minded people before it, the better.

He saw two relatively dramatic possibilities in the future. One was that electoral reform would lead to four or five

parties in Parliament, with a coalition government forming from two or more.

The second was that the Conservative Party would remain, but recaptured by the "civilized" group in the party, while the Labour Party would shake off its left-wing and perhaps come to some sort of terms with the Liberals.

Mr. Prentice, who may fight the next election as an independent, disowned by his local party, hopes British politics will become more like American politics.

The attraction of the Republican and Democratic parties was that they accepted society broadly as it stood. In British terms, a slightly left-of-centre party led a slightly right-of-centre party would be agreed on the mixed economy, the rule of law, and the Western alliance. Differences would be of emphasis.

Mr. Neville Sandelson, a second threatened right-wing Labour politician, faces a crucial local party meeting in his Hayes constituency on Sunday. He has been unwilling to comment on reports that, if defeated, he will resign and fight a by-election.

George Ince injured in jail

On the eve of a campaign, to be mounted today, to press for the release from prison of George Ince, who is serving a 15-year sentence for his part in a bullion robbery five years ago, it was disclosed last night that he was under observation in the hospital wing of Gaol, Leicester, with injuries to his wrists.

The Home Office said the injuries were inflicted nearly a month ago. No other person was involved.

Men killed swan in Hyde Park

Two men said to have killed a swan in Hyde Park, belonging to the Queen, by throwing it and pulling its head off, were fined the maximum £5 with £80 costs, a judge heard at the Central Criminal Court yesterday under the Protection of Birds Act.

Dr. Lutfi Azzam Vaghely, aged 29, and Kavell Jafari, 28, an economics student, both from Iran, and staying at a flat in the Grosvenor Hotel, were charged with the offence.

The judge, Mr. David Barr, the magistrate, described it as an unpleasant and unhappy case.

Magazine for sale

The news magazine Time and Tide for sale at a asking price of £150,000, it was announced yesterday.

Press Council condemns 'censorship' of 'Times'

Continued from page 1

newspaper. They are specifically designed to achieve reparation by correcting inaccuracies and, in appropriate cases, providing the right of reply by the quotation of the complainant's response to the disputed publication. But the council's declaration of the complainant's right to have that reply published in the offending newspaper or periodical was not published in due course.

What they in fact did was censorship, which is totally unacceptable in a country which enjoys freedom of expression and freedom of the press.

The Press Council has said on other occasions, and must now

reiterate, that action of this kind endangers hard-won freedoms which, once lost, will be difficult to recover and each repetition of such action makes that danger the greater.

The council therefore condemns action of this kind and urges all sections of the industry to ensure cooperation in preserving the essential freedom of free speech and a free press and the right to protest.

Union accepts statement: Mr. Kenneth Smith, father (chairman) of the National Graphical Association machine managers' chapel (office branch) at The Times, said last night that he accepted the Press Council statement (the Press Association reports).

Asked if the chapel members would accept what the Press Council called the "proper course" of action, he said: "If this is the agreed machinery with regard to our trade union, I will abide by it."

Plea to allow a Cypriot family to remain

By a Staff Reporter

Lord Avebury, chairman of the Parliamentary Committee for Human Rights, said yesterday that the appeal procedure for deportation cases like that of Mr. Philip Agee, the former Central Intelligence Agency employee, was a farce.

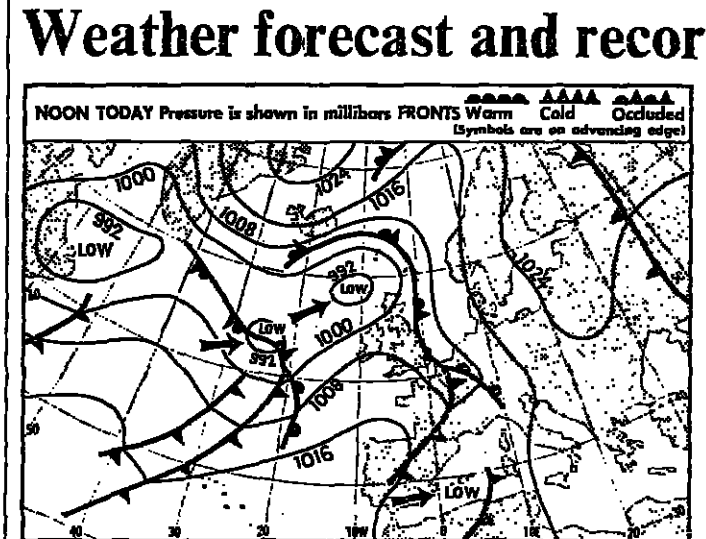
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MP describes Agee appeal procedure as a farce

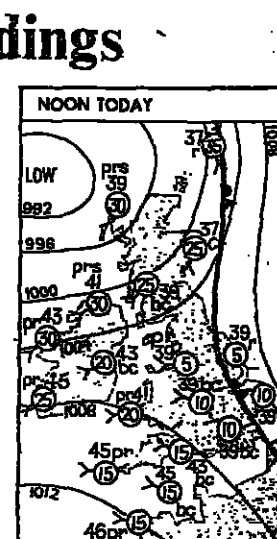
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Today		Sun rises: 7.56 am		Sun sets: 4.27 pm	
Moon rises: 7.18 am		Moon sets: 4.53 pm		New Moon: 2.11 pm	
Lighting up: 4.57 pm to 7.25 am.					
High water: London Bridge, 1.14 am, 6.8m (22.2ft); 1.41 pm, 6.9m (22.5ft); Avonmouth, 6.56 am, 12.0m (44.0ft); 7.19 pm, 13.3m (43.7ft); Dover, 10.40 am, 6.6m (21.8ft); 11.4 pm, 6.8m (22.5ft); Hull, 7.4m (24.4ft); Liverpool, 10.51 am, 9.5m (31.1ft); 11.19 pm, 9.2m (30.3ft).					
Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:					
Pressure will be low to the W of Britain while a trough over E districts moves slowly E.					
London, SE England, East Anglia: Rain or drizzle at first, bright or clear intervals later, scattered showers; wind SE, moderate, veering W; max temp 6°C (43°F).					
Central S and N England, E Midlands: Rather cloudy, bright intervals developing, scattered showers; wind mainly W, light					
Wales, NW England, Lake District: Bright intervals, occasional showers, possibly wintry on high ground; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 6°C (43°F).					
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Isle of Man, SW and NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: Bright intervals,					



Mainly cloudy, outbreaks of rain or snow; wind SE (4); strong at times, gusty (5).

Outlook for TOMORROW as day: Rather cloudy, rain at sunset or snow on higher ground; rain below normal at night frost and patchy fog. Sea passages: S North Sea, S North Atlantic, W of Ireland or strong, becoming variable moderate, locally rough at night.

English Channel (E1) Wind: strong, becoming W moderate, locally rough.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind S to SW, fresh or to light at first; sea moderate to rough.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max. 6 p.m. 57° (13°); min. 6 p.m. 50° (12°). Rain: 6 p.m. 75 per cent. Rain to 6 p.m. nil. Sun. 24hr to 6 p.m. 1.014 in. millibars, falling. 1,000 millibars = 29.53 in.

Overseas selling prices

Australia, 4000 lbs. 1200, R. Canada, 4000 lbs

IE NEWS

ail catering censured dirty uniforms untidy buffet cars

transport
ident
forms in British Rail
cars, untidy buffet
cars and dirty table-
cloths in a report
Rail catering by the
transport Consultative
Committee.
The report, an out-
come of a survey of
buffet cars, and a poor
of cakes for tea also
Rail, which is to meet
later today, welcomed
the report but ex-
pressed its surprise at the
findings.
"We have put a lot
of work into develop-
ing buffet cars, and
each steward is issued
with a set of uniforms
and a set of cutlery
and crockery. We are
proud of the service
we provide," said an
official.
The report, however,
found that the service
was "out of control"
and that the uniforms
were "dirty and worn".
The report also found
that the buffet cars
were "dirty and untidy",
and that the service
was "poor".
The report also found
that the buffet cars
were "dirty and untidy",
and that the service
was "poor".

European drivers hurry to avoid British food

el Bally
dental lorry drivers dis-
cuss to Britain because
the food and accom-
modation is inferior to
those in the Continent.
They try to deliver
to the Continent the
y, according to the
mal coach and lorry
association. Lorry
men des Chaeffeurs
(UICR).
The association says that
if they have to eat in
any bring sandwiches
are being made to
dards and to increase
membership of the
n. Only a thousand
drivers belong to the
out of 30,000 who visit
regularly. This
with more than
embers in France, Ger-

IS costs to patients icized by dentists

Roper
services Correspondent
Health Service
charges suggest scant
t the dental health of
n by a government
moving towards a
unified to the priority
id recipients of social
grants, the British
Association says in
to the Royal Commis-
the National Health
resent dental charges
or £12 if dentures are
The memorandum
at there can be no
satisfaction for levying
on the patients and
and opticians while
yes of treatment are
if money because of
nt financial policies
to a deterioration of
dental nursing
which puts the safety
is in doubt, the asso-
s.
10 years from 1965 the
he dental services as

ional campaign over safety suggested

Groser and
ton
surprise gas safety
t should be launched
ely, the National Gas
re Council said yes-
at the wake of recent
is it believes that far
ort should be made to
owners of the possible
and precautions to
an a leak is suspected,
ouncil says the minis-
ter should seek to
bilitate fears that cer-
tain gas appliances are
unsafe. The
is worried that
t statements about
y be causing many
notably the elderly, to
nt essential warmth for
t their gas appliances
Gas said yesterday
re was no charge for
to investigate a sus-
pected gas escape or to
escape found, which

rt clears a m of aken identity

also Eric Douglas, a
f mistaken identity, was
the Central Criminal
sterday after spending
in custody for a crime
not commit. Judge
QC, the Recorder, said
d leave court without a
h character from the
fences he was charged

PC badly injured by train

Police Constable Michael Tay-
lor, aged 27, was struck by
a train at Sowerby Bridge station,
West Yorkshire, yesterday while
investigating a suspected case
of vandalism on a railway
signal.
He was near a tunnel when
he was hit, and suffered severe
head and chest injuries.

Air fare inquiry 'a waste of time'

By Arthur Reed
The inquiry into whether
European air fares are too high
had been "a little short of a
fiasco", Mr Robert McCrindle,
parliamentary consultant to the
Guild of Business Travel
Agents, said yesterday.
What little of concrete value
that emerged from the discus-
sions appeared to have con-
firmed the attitudes of the air-
lines that European air fares
are not, in the main, overpriced
in comparison with those in the
United States.
"The truth is that this was
little more than a public rela-
tions exercise on the part of
the authority to appease the
Airline Users' Committee, and
it seems that this consumer
body was out of its depth when
it originally criticised the level
of European air fares, and has
stumbled on like an innocent
in the jungle", he said.
He was surprised that the
Civil Aviation Authority had
lent its authority to "this waste
of time".
The best prospect of reduc-
ing air fares in Europe was to
develop bilateral arrangements
on advance purchase, some evi-
dence of which had been given
in the announcement of new
fares between London and
Greece, Turkey and Italy.
The CAA inquiry concluded
yesterday after Mr Harvey
Crush, representing a group of
three of the smaller British in-
dependent airlines, had asked
the authority to see that the
business traveller was not sub-
sidizing, through a high level
of fares, passengers on the same
flight going on holiday.
During the inquiry British
Airways announced new low-
cost advance purchase fares, but
said that sterling prices for
fares ought to be raised rather
than lowered. British Caledo-
nian said that proposals to sim-
plify the European tariff would
lead to fares being raised,
rather than falling.
The CAA yesterday rejected
Mr McCrindle's criticisms com-
menting that it had been "an
extremely useful exercise in
clarifying issues for both the
authority and airlines".

Work in London's East End has disappeared faster than people 'Homes before jobs' policy being questioned

By John Young
Planning Reporter
The Government is likely to
be pressed during 1977 to adopt
a more discriminating policy on
employment incentives. It will
be urged to concentrate its
efforts on the districts worst
affected, including the inner
cities, which Mr Shore, Sec-
retary of State for the Environ-
ment, has promised will be
given special consideration.
Nearly half of Britain's popu-
lation lives in so-called assisted
areas. To classify whole regions
as in need of special help, it
is argued, is to obscure the real
difficulties; the unemployment
figures for the North-west, for
instance, tend to disguise the
acute crisis in parts of Mersey-
side.
Even in Greater London,
where unemployment is slightly
below the national average, the
position in some inner districts
is as bad as anywhere in the
country. Yet because the South-
east as a whole is deemed to be
relatively prosperous, they receive
no help.
It is just a year since the
Greater London Council re-
versed the policy it started 25
years ago of encouraging dis-
persal from the inner city. It
is generally accepted that a
thinning out of the formerly
reeming East End slums, for
instance, was necessary and
desirable, but the accompanying
table shows how far the plan-
ners' dream of a new life for
the inhabitants who remained
has failed to come true.
In Poplar and Stepney, the
heart of the old East End, the
population has fallen by more
than a third, yet unemployment
is still well over twice the
national average. By contrast,
Uxbridge enjoys virtually full
employment, although its popu-
lation in the same period has
increased by more than a
tenth.
The fact, which nobody evi-
dently foresaw a quarter of a
century ago, is that jobs have
disappeared faster than people.
Inspired by that strange slogan,
"Homes before jobs", the
planners decided that the near-
est and easiest solution to
overcrowded slums was compre-
hensive redevelopment, allied
to new zoning regulations that
displaced thousands of small
industries simply because they
were adjudged to be "non-
conforming".
Some inner London boroughs,
though not all, are now con-
vinced that the policy was a
disaster, that they can expect
little practical help from either
the Government or the GLC,
and that regeneration will de-
pend largely on their own
efforts.
The outstanding example is
Greenwich, which took the lead
by appointing an employment
development officer, Mr George
Prince, as long ago as 1963. At
that time, after the closure of
several large industrial plants,
about a fifth of the total local
labour force of 100,000 was out
of work.
Since then, Mr George says,
some £10m has been invested
in existing industry, creating
2,000 new jobs. Still more re-
markable, 120 new firms have
moved into more than a mil-
lion square feet of refurbished
factory space, representing an
investment of some £20m and
providing an extra 4,000 jobs.
His policy has been, first,
to keep in close touch with
every firm "to try to stop the
rot" and secondly, to concen-
trate on attracting small firms
that have been displaced by
redevelopment schemes else-
where but need to be close to
central London.
"We are not able to offer
them any incentives", he point-
ed out. "All we can do is to
encourage them, make them
feel they are wanted and give
them all the help we can in
obtaining industrial develop-
ment certificates and so on."
There are still formidable
difficulties, notably the high
cost of land, rent and rates.

Lesson for newer towns in cities' decay

By Our Planning Reporter
The idea that the crisis facing
the inner cities is a fairly new
phenomenon, caused by the
rapid collapse of industrial
employment in the early 1960s,
is challenged in a booklet pub-
lished yesterday.
It is based on detailed studies
by the National Community
Development Project of five
specific small areas; Benwell
and North Shields in the North-
east, Bailey in West Yorkshire,
Salford in Birmingham, and
Canning Town in east London.
It concludes that the decay,
which is attracting so much
attention, is simply the final
stage in a pattern of growth,
stability and decline, the last of
which began as long ago as the
end of the First World War.
"Decline has not been a
simple process", it observes.
"The collapse of the old in-
dustries is only one part of it,
a part which has set up a long
chain reaction. The surplus of
unemployed workers, empty
land and buildings left behind
by the collapse of the tradi-
tional industries were soon ex-
ploited in new ways by new
enterprises.
"The growth of the new
activities may have mopped up
some of the unemployed in
some areas, but it has not
reversed the decline of these
areas' economic bases; it has
only served to disguise the full
consequences of this decline."
New manufacturing, ware-
housing and distribution busi-
nesses are attracted to older
premises, which they can
either rent cheaply or buy and
convert at little cost. But their
investment commitments are
slight, and most of the jobs pro-
vided are low-paid and involve
little skill.
Of the land released by the
decline of older industries,
much has simply remained derelict;
more than a third of Salford's
industrial belt has been
unused for years. But the prop-
erty boom of the 1970s also
provided large profits from in-
vesting in land rather than
manufacturing industry, and
some companies were able to
solve their cash-flow difficulties
and supplement their capital by
"asset-stripping".
The booklet advances no
specific solutions, although it
condemns both the capitalist
system and government policies
of intervention and regional aid.
It also gives a warning that the
history of the five areas studied
contains a lesson for newer and
apparently more successful
towns and cities.
The Costs of Industrial Change.
(Home Office Urban Deprivation
Unit, Horseferry House, Dean
Ryle Street, London, SW1P 2AW,
and CDP offices in Birmingham,
Newham, Newcastle and North
Tyneside, 80p.)

Appeal for directives on school spending

By Our Education
Correspondent
The National Association of
Head Teachers in a statement
today asks the Government to
issue "directives" on the
amount of money local educa-
tion authorities should spend on
maintaining minimum standards
in schools.
Mr Michael Brighouse, chair-
man of the association's educa-
tional administration committee,
says he wants the Government
to prevent the teacher-pupil
ratio from falling below the
1975 level. He would like to see
minimum standards laid down
for the amounts to be spent for
a child on books, stationery and
equipment.
The association, which repre-
sents about 18,000 head teachers
in state schools, says it is wor-
ried about the wide differences
in school spending between local
authorities. Each authority is
allowed to decide how it allo-
cates the rate-support grant
among its different public ser-
vices.
Mr Brighouse says that wor-
sening pupil-teacher ratios were
particularly harmful to primary
schools in towns, causing more
children to leave school illiter-
ate and semi-literate. In sec-
ondary schools O-level and A-level
options were being abandoned
halfway through the course.
The association also says that
charges for school meals should
be raised. State subsidies on
milk and meals should be re-
moved from the education bud-
get and transferred to the De-
partment of Health and Social
Security.
The statement says buses pro-
viding free travel for pupils
living long distances from school
were picking up other children
free of charge. Those children
should be charged economic
fares.

Rampton Hospital fire

Five patients were moved
from a dormitory at the top-
security Rampton Hospital,
Nottinghamshire, yesterday,
when fire broke out in a locker
room.

The best priced Low Tar King Size With Europe's most advanced filter



Low tar	✓
Balanced flavour	✓
Full King Size	✓
Right price	✓

47p

Recommended retail price.
Not a limited special price offer.

PS Extra Mild Setting the pace in modern smoking

LOW TAR GROUP As defined in H.M. Government Tables.
EVERY PACKET CARRIES A GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING

CHRISTIAN UNITY

Agreement reached on doctrine of authority in the Church

A statement issued today by the Anglican and Roman Catholic theological commission stated that agreement had been reached on the doctrine of authority in the Church, apart from qualifications on papal primacy.

The agreed statement said that while the church did not wholly resolve all the problems of papal primacy it provided a solid basis for confronting them.

The following is the text of the general statement:

Introduction:
1. The confession of Christ as Lord is the heart of the Christian faith. To him God has given authority in heaven and on earth. As Lord of the Church he bestows the Holy Spirit to create communion with him and with one another. To bring his *koinonia* to perfection is the Church's eternal purpose. The Church exists to achieve the fulfilment of this purpose when God will be all in all.

I. CHRISTIAN AUTHORITY

2. Through the gift of the Spirit the apostolic community came to receive in the world the saving activity of God and their mission to proclaim to all men the good news of salvation. Therefore they preached Jesus through whom God has spoken finally to men. Assisted by the Holy Spirit they transmitted what they had heard to their successors and to the whole Church. The life and words of Jesus and their interpretation of his redemptive work. Consequently the inspired documents in which this is related came to be accepted by the Church as a normative record of the authentic foundation of the faith. To these documents the Church refers for the inspiration of its life and mission; to these documents the Church refers its teaching and practice. Through these documents the Church is united to the Word of God as conveyed. Entrusted with these documents, the Christian community is enabled by the Holy Spirit to live out the gospel and so to be led into all truth. It is therefore given the capacity to assess its faith and life and to speak to the world in the name of Christ. Shared commitment and belief create a common mind in which the Word of God should be interpreted and obeyed. By reference to this common faith each person tests the truth of his beliefs.

3. The Spirit of the risen Lord, who indwells the Christian community, continues to maintain the people of God in obedience to the Father's will. He safeguards their faithfulness to the revelation of Jesus Christ and equips them for their mission in the world. By this Spirit the Holy Spirit is active in the Church. Through his incorporation into Christ and obedience to his will, the Church is made open to one another and assume mutual obligations. Since the Lordship of Christ is universal, the community bears responsibility towards all mankind, which demands participation in all that promotes the good of society and the welfare of the human race. The common life in the body of Christ equips the community and each of its members with the need to fulfil this responsibility. They are enabled so to live that the authority of Christ will be mediated through the Christian community: when Christians so act and speak, men perceive the authoritative word of Christ.

II. AUTHORITY IN THE CHURCH

4. The Church is a community which consciously seeks to submit to Jesus Christ. By sharing in the life of the Spirit all find within the *koinonia* the means to be faithful to the revelation of the Lord. Some respond more fully to his call; by the inner quality of their life they win a respect which allows them to speak in Christ's name with authority.

5. The Holy Spirit also gives to some individuals and communities special gifts for the benefit of the Church, which enable them to speak and be heard. (cf. Eph 4.11, 12; 1 Cor 12.1-11). Among these gifts of the Spirit for the edification of the Church is the episcopate of the ordained ministry. There are some whom the Holy Spirit commissions through ordination for service to the whole community. They exercise their authority in fulfilling ministerial functions related to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers (Acts 2.42). This pastoral authority belongs primarily to the bishop, who is responsible for the unity and integrity of the *koinonia* in order to further the Church's response to the Lordship of Christ and his mission. Since the bishop has general oversight of the community, he can require the compliance necessary to maintain order and charity in its daily life. He does not, however, act alone. He does not have jurisdiction over those who have ministerial authority in their own right and mutual responsibility and interdependence. This service of the Church, officially entrusted only to ordained ministers, is intrinsic to the Church's structure according to the mandate given by Christ and recognized by the community. This is yet another form of authority.

6. The perception of God's will for his Church is not limited only to the ordained ministry but is shared by all its members. All who live faithfully within the *koinonia* may be called to the leadership of the Spirit and be brought towards a deeper understanding of the gospel and of its implications for life and changing situations. Ordained ministers commissioned to discern these implications are also called to express them to the community, sharing its quest for understanding the gospel in obedience to the Lordship of Christ and to the needs and concerns of all.

7. The community, for its part, must respond to and assess the insights and teaching of the ordained ministers. Through this continuing process of discernment and response, in which the faith is expressed and the gospel is personally applied, the community declares the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the faithful may live freely under the discipline of the gospel.

III. AUTHORITY IN THE COMMUNION OF THE CHURCHES

8. The *koinonia* is realized not only in the local Christian communities, but also in the communion of the churches. The unity of local communities under one bishop constitutes what is commonly called the *koinonia* of a local church. The unity of local communities under one bishop constitutes what is commonly called the *koinonia* of a local church. The unity of local communities under one bishop constitutes what is commonly called the *koinonia* of a local church.



The Anglican Bishop of Ossory, Ferns and Leighlin, the Right Rev H. R. McAdoo (left), and the Roman Catholic Bishop of East Anglia, Mgr Alan C. Clark, co-chairmen.

expression is sometimes used in other ways. The local church is rooted in the witness of the apostles and entrusted with the apostolic mission. Faithful to the apostolic mission, the local church is an ecclesial community, dedicated to the service of the same Lord, it is the Church of Christ. In spite of diversities each local church recognizes its own essential features in the others and its true identity with them. The authoritative action and proclamation of the people of God to the world therefore are not simply the responsibilities of each church acting separately, but are the responsibilities of the local churches together. The spiritual gifts of one may be an inspiration to the others. Since each bishop is a minister of the local church, he has to make it aware of the universal communion of which it is a part. His church with the others: this is symbolized by the participation of several bishops in its ordination.

9. Ever since the Council of Jerusalem (Acts 15) the churches have realized the need to express and strengthen the *koinonia* by coming together to discuss matters of mutual concern and to meet contemporary challenges. Such gatherings may be either regional or worldwide. Through such meetings the churches are brought into communion with Christ and obedience to his will. The local church is made open to one another and assume mutual obligations. Since the Lordship of Christ is universal, the community bears responsibility towards all mankind, which demands participation in all that promotes the good of society and the welfare of the human race. The common life in the body of Christ equips the community and each of its members with the need to fulfil this responsibility. They are enabled so to live that the authority of Christ will be mediated through the Christian community: when Christians so act and speak, men perceive the authoritative word of Christ.

IV. AUTHORITY IN THE CHURCH

10. Early in the history of the Church a function of oversight of other bishops of their regions was assigned to the bishop. His role was to ensure the faithfulness of the churches to the will of Christ. This was among the considerations which led to the development of the episcopate. This practice has continued to the present day. This form of episcopate is a service to the community, which is entrusted with the responsibility of the region; for every bishop receives at ordination both responsibility for his local church and the obligation to be in communion with the other churches. The living awareness and practical service of the other churches. The Church of God is found in each of the local churches. The purpose of *koinonia* is the realization of the will of Christ: Father, keep them in thy name, that they may be one, even as we are one. . . so that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. (John 17.21, 23). The bishop is a principal witness to the fulfilment of this will of Christ in the churches of his region. It is his duty to assist the bishops to promote the unity and integrity of the Church, to ensure the right teaching, holiness of life, brotherly unity, and the Church's mission to the world. When he perceives a serious deficiency in the life or mission of one of the churches he is bound, if necessary, to call the local bishop's attention to it and to offer assistance. There will also be occasions when he has to assist other bishops to reach a common mind with regard to their shared responsibilities. The teaching and sharing together and active mutual concern are indispensable to the churches' effective witness to Christ.

11. It is within the context of this historical development that the see of Rome, whose prominence was associated with the first pope, Peter and Paul, eventually became the principal centre in matters concerning the Church universal. The bishop of Rome, as the successor of Peter and Paul, is seen as the principal centre in matters concerning the Church universal. The bishop of Rome, as the successor of Peter and Paul, is seen as the principal centre in matters concerning the Church universal.

12. On the basis of this analogy the Roman Catholic Church has claimed that this service was necessary to the unity of the whole Church. From overruling the authority of the bishops of their own dioceses, this service was explicitly intended to support them in their ministry. The teaching of these councils shows that communion with the bishop of Rome does not mean the subordination of the local churches to the bishop of Rome, but rather the recognition of his role as the principal centre in matters concerning the Church universal.

13. The purpose of this episcopal function of the bishop of Rome is to promote Christian fellowship in faithfulness to the teaching of the apostles. The theological interpretation of this primacy and the administrative structures through which it has been exercised have varied considerably through the centuries. Neither theory nor practice made it proper exercise of the primacy. Sometimes functions assumed by the see of Rome were not necessarily linked to the primacy. Sometimes the conduct of the occupant of this see has been unworthy of its office. In some cases the exercise of this office has been obscured by interpretations placed upon it; and sometimes external pressures have made it proper exercise almost impossible. Yet the primacy, rightly understood, implies that the bishop of Rome exercises his oversight in order to guard and promote the faithfulness of all the churches to the teaching of the apostles.

V. PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS

14. What we have written here amounts to a consensus on authority in the Church and, in particular, on the basic principles of primacy. This consensus is of fundamental importance. While it does not wholly resolve all the problems associated with papal primacy, it provides us with a

solid basis for confronting them. It is when we move from these basic principles to particular claims of papal primacy and to its exercise that problems arise, the gravity of which will be variously judged:

(a) Claims on behalf of the Roman see as commonly presented in the past have put a greater weight on the Petrine texts (Matt 16.18, 19; Luke 22.31, 32; John 21.15-17) than they are generally thought to be able to bear. However, many Roman Catholic scholars do not now feel it necessary to stand by former exegeses of these texts in every respect.

(b) The First Vatican Council of 1870 used the language of "divine right" of the successors of Peter. This language has no clear interpretation in modern Roman Catholic theology. If it is understood as affirming that the papal office is a divine right of the bishop of Rome as part of God's design for the universal *koinonia* then it is not in communion with the other churches. But if it is further implied that as long as a church is not in communion with the bishop of Rome, a difficulty would remain: for some this difficulty would be removed by simply restoring communion, but to others the implication would be that the pope was infallible in his teaching. It must, however, be borne in mind that the doctrine of infallibility is hedged round by the conditions that it is exercised only at the First Vatican Council. These conditions preclude the idea that the pope is an inspired or inspired more clearly than other persons in the Church. For the Roman Catholic Church the pope's dogmatic definitions, which, fulfilling the criteria of infallibility, are free from error, do not more or less than express the mind of the Church on issues concerning the faith and morals. For the Roman Catholic Church the pope's dogmatic definitions, which, fulfilling the criteria of infallibility, are free from error, do not more or less than express the mind of the Church on issues concerning the faith and morals.

(c) Anglicans find grave difficulty in the affirmation that the pope can be infallible in his teaching. It must, however, be borne in mind that the doctrine of infallibility is hedged round by the conditions that it is exercised only at the First Vatican Council. These conditions preclude the idea that the pope is an inspired or inspired more clearly than other persons in the Church. For the Roman Catholic Church the pope's dogmatic definitions, which, fulfilling the criteria of infallibility, are free from error, do not more or less than express the mind of the Church on issues concerning the faith and morals.

(d) The claim that the pope possesses universal jurisdiction, the limits of which are not clearly specified, is a source of anxiety to Anglicans. The pope's jurisdiction is thus open to its illegitimate or uncontrolled use. Nevertheless, the First Vatican Council intended that the pope should exercise his jurisdiction to maintain and never to erode the structures of the local churches. The Roman Catholic Church is today seeking to replace the papal office by a more pastoral understanding of authority in the Church.

15. In spite of the difficulties just mentioned, we believe that this Statement on Authority in the Church represents a significant convergence with far-reaching implications. It is a convergence of two traditions, without compromising their respective allegiances. It is a convergence of two traditions, without compromising their respective allegiances. It is a convergence of two traditions, without compromising their respective allegiances.

V. CONCLUSION

16. In times of crisis or when the fundamental basis of faith is in question, the Church can make judgments, consonant with Scripture, which are authoritative. When the Church generates an ecclesial council its decisions on fundamental matters of faith exclude what is erroneous. Through the Holy Spirit the Church commits itself to these judgments, recognizing that, being faithful to Scripture and consistent with Tradition, they are by the same Spirit protected from error. They do not add to the truth but, although not exhaustive, they clarify the Church's understanding of the faith. In this way, the Holy Spirit keeps the people of God faithful to the truth of the faith.

VI. CONCLUSION

17. The Malta Report of 1963 envisaged the coming together of the Roman Catholic Church and the churches of the Anglican Communion in terms of "unity in stages". We have reached the stage of the Malta Report. The Malta Report envisaged the coming together of the Roman Catholic Church and the churches of the Anglican Communion in terms of "unity in stages". We have reached the stage of the Malta Report.

18. The bishops are collectively responsible for defending and interpreting the apostolic faith. The primary responsibility of a bishop is to ensure the faithfulness of his flock to the apostolic faith. The primary responsibility of a bishop is to ensure the faithfulness of his flock to the apostolic faith. The primary responsibility of a bishop is to ensure the faithfulness of his flock to the apostolic faith.

19. It is primary to be a genuine expression of episcopate it will foster the *koinonia* by helping the bishops to be in communion with each other and with the whole Church. It is primary to be a genuine expression of episcopate it will foster the *koinonia* by helping the bishops to be in communion with each other and with the whole Church.

20. Although primacy and conciliarity are complementary elements of episcopate it has often happened that one has been emphasized at the expense of the other, even to the point of serious imbalance. When churches have been separated from one another, this danger has been increased. The *koinonia* of the churches requires that a proper balance be restored between the two with the responsible participation of the whole people of God.

VII. CONCLUSION

21. If God's will for the unity of the Church is to be realized, the Christian community is to be faithful to the teaching of the apostles. The Christian community is to be faithful to the teaching of the apostles. The Christian community is to be faithful to the teaching of the apostles.

has the obligation and the competence to make declarations in matters of faith. This mission involves the whole people of God, among whom some may rediscover the gospel more clearly than others certain aspects of the saving truth. At times these result in conflict and debate. Customs, accepted positions, beliefs, formulations, and practices, as well as innovations and reinterpretations, may be shown to be inadequate, mistaken, or even inconsistent with the gospel. When conflict endangers unity or threatens to distort the gospel the Church must have effective means for resolving it.

In both our traditions the appeal to Scripture, to the creeds, to the Fathers, and the definitions of the councils of the early Church is regarded as basic and normative. But the bishops have a special responsibility for promoting unity and discerning error, and interaction of bishop and people in its exercise is a safeguard of the faith and the life of the Church. The teaching of the faith and the ordering of life in the Christian community require a daily exercise of this responsibility; but there is no guarantee that those who have an everyday responsibility will—any more than other members of the Church—be free from errors of judgment or from intolerant abuses, and will never distort the truth. Yet, in Christian hope, we are confident that such errors will be corrected by the Church's ability to proclaim the gospel and to show forth the Christian life; for we believe that Christ will not desert his Church, and that the Holy Spirit will lead it into all truth. That is why the Church, in spite of its failures, can be described as indefectible.

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WEST EUROPE

Nine tell East Europeans to stop overfishing or they will be banished from Community waters

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Jan 18

Foreign ministers of the EEC agreed here today to present the Soviet Union, East Germany and Poland with a fisheries ultimatum. They must choose by the end of the month between outright banishment from Community fishing grounds or compliance with the catch limits communicated to them at the turn of the year.

On the basis of figures supplied by Britain, Mr. Finn Olav Gundelach, the EEC commissioner in charge of fisheries negotiations, told the ministers that the three East European countries, and in particular the Soviet Union, had fished at levels that would quickly exhaust their quotas.

It was agreed to send a communication to the three countries, informing them of the number of vessels they would be allowed to send into the

Community's 200-mile zone. They would be asked to furnish by February 1 the names of the boats and the areas in which they would be fishing.

Failure to reply to the request would lead to their immediate banishment from the Community's waters. The absence of any Soviet or East European response to the EEC's previous approaches had made the Community look ridiculous, Mr. Gundelach said.

Last December, EEC foreign ministers agreed to offer the Soviet Union, East Germany, Poland, Sweden, Spain and Portugal a reduced level of fishing in Community waters during the first three months of this year, with a prospect of continued fishing thereafter if they were prepared to negotiate.

Speaking as chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Crosland, the Foreign Secretary, told a press conference after today's meeting that the Soviet Union, which was given a three-

month quota of 36,000 tons, had been greatly overfishing.

Mr. Crosland said the Soviet Union had taken a tough line on the East Europeans, but taken as a matter of urgency measure of agreement, need to introduce an licensing and notification system for the fishing boats. The licences would be allocated to the countries concerned EEC member states.

There was no new proposal today on the Commission's proposed conservation measures and share-out of catch between EEC member states within their collective 200-mile zone. Instead, the ministers agreed to prolong by a year the standstill arrangement approved last December, which allows member states to continue fishing in each other's waters at the same level as the corresponding last year.

Mr. Crosland said that the EEC's own decision-making institutions must be made more effective before new members are admitted.

Other countries expressed concern about the economic implications of Portuguese membership. Mr. Renard, van Elsen, the Belgian Foreign Minister, suggested that the EEC should seriously consider initially offering Portugal "something between association and full membership".

In a separate discussion, the Foreign Ministers agreed on the importance of maintaining pressure on Japan in the light of the unsatisfactory response so far to requests to reduce its large trade surplus with the EEC.

Three main arguments were advanced in the Council of Ministers today. Mr. Crosland, backed by his West German and Danish colleagues, emphasized the substance which EEC membership would provide for a fledgling Portuguese democracy still threatened by totalitarian pressures.

He said it was important not to give the Portuguese the impression that they were being held at arm's length.

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Trade pact signed with Middle East countries

From David Cross
Brussels, Jan 18

The European Community increasingly cordial relations with the Arab world were strengthened in Brussels today with the signing of a trade pact with Egypt, Jordan and Syria.

Emphasizing the importance of the new agreement, Mr. Crosland, the Foreign Secretary, said the pact would encourage both sides "to co-ordinate our efforts to establish a new pattern of relations between developed and developing countries in keeping with the hopes and needs of a more just and balanced world order".

Mr. Crosland, who was in Brussels on behalf of all member governments, said the agreement in his capacity as acting chairman of the EEC's Council of Ministers.

In equally euphoric vein Zakaria Abdul Fatah, Egyptian Minister for Trade and Development, said the agreement reflected response by his country, and also Syria to the aid of unity in Europe.

On a less enthusiastic note, however, the Egyptian minister made it clear that he and Arab colleagues were still satisfied with the level of financial aid being offered the Community under terms of the agreements.

Community's failure to prove the terms of its offer of grants and loans totalling 270m units of account (about £175m) over the four years or so had holding up the conclusion of the agreements.

The signing of today's agreement means that the Community has now negotiated trade, aid and co-operation links with all the Mediterranean Arab countries except Lebanon.

A similar pact with Israel is to be signed in Brussels next month. The Community's careful policy of acting even-handedly in the Middle East.

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Split appears in EEC over Portugal entry

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, Jan 18

Signs of serious divisions within the European Community over how to respond to a possible Portuguese application for membership later this year appeared at a meeting here today of Foreign Ministers of the Nine.

The meeting was the first to be held under the six-month presidency of Mr. Crosland, the Foreign Secretary.

Previously, little consideration has been given to the political and economic implications of enlarging the EEC further. Ministerial minds have been wonderfully concentrated, however, by the urgent need to decide what to say to Dr. Soares, the Portuguese Prime Minister, when he tours European capitals in February and March.

The main purpose of Dr. Soares' mission is to assess the likely response to membership application. His visit will be taking place at a time when the EEC is already embroiled in difficult entry negotiations with Greece.

In addition, there is the prospect that the State of Greece, in the light of the unsatisfactory response so far to requests to reduce its large trade surplus with the EEC.

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Rugby Union

Discrepancy between sentences blatant

Billie Waldron, a former Irish forward, retired yesterday from rugby only a few weeks after playing in an Irish trial. Waldron, aged 33, an Oxford Blue, has played three times for Ireland, twice in the second row and once as prop.

He has been playing for Trinity College for the past two seasons and helped the club to success last season in the Leinster Senior Cup. Waldron, who is studying for a law degree at Trinity said he did not have the time to continue playing.

Waldron played twice for Oxford at Twickenham in 1965 and 1967 and was captain of London Irish for two years.

add the difference of the Tory Party and their approach on on Thursday.

He examined the details. His colleagues called themselves as having a wisdom in a constabulary of this sort.

The Government would listen to the agreement was they would agree to it with good grace.

Conservative Party should be in about the right way. I always been against Wales, long before they to the Welsh Office.

He would not let him that the Government the unity of the United Kingdom.

They rejected separatism the posture of separatism and very state economy which were in the views of the parties.

He said (he said) any proposals are

Womon's territorial hockey championship. It was West's first win in three seasons, and by half-time, with a lead of 2-1, they gave their supporters great hopes which they justified with three more goals in the second half.

The match, played on the hard court pitch, in the beautiful surroundings of the boys' public school, started at a fast pace. From the bully, East went into the attack with a flourish and was rewarded with a superb shot. East looked extremely confident but West recovered and were soon back into the action. East was quick and skilful East forwards but also of giving support to their own attack. West played as a team and were a lot of game. East's early marking of a Sin-luan near West's circle foiled many of East's attacks.

East's captain, Valerie Robson, was by far the best player on the pitch. She went fearless in defence, and a constant source of danger in attack but too often

[illegible]

He had only his Formula One Drivers' Association membership card to show the policeman, who evidently knew nothing of the world champion. Hunt's dilemma was compounded by a local police station, where he was immediately recognized and offered the police car. Before leaving the policeman signed autographs —

Agence France Presse.

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He had only his Formula One Drivers' Association membership card to show the policeman, who evidently knew nothing of the world champion. Hunt's dilemma was compounded by a local police station, where he was immediately recognized and offered the police car. Before leaving the policeman signed autographs —

Agence France Presse.

covered from a shoulder injury and Jackson continues to deputize. Richmond is playing Waterloo at 12.30 before the county match and will be without the locks Ralston and Hess. They are replaced by Humphreys and Slagter, who debut. He is making his first team appearance.

Ausden, a tight head prop, who has joined Saracens from Fullers, makes his first appearance for them at Bath because McCullin is playing for Middlesex. Saracens ranked another Fullers player.

Waldron cannot speak

Olle Waldron, a former Irish forward, retired yesterday from rugby only a few weeks after playing in an Irish trial. Waldron, aged 31, played for Middlesex, twice played three times for Ireland, played in the second row and once as prop. He had been playing for Trinity College for the past two seasons

Deputies. Scott is at No 6 as Ripley is preparing for his wedding in Austria on Saturday and Bissell replaces the flanker Mordell, who was concussed in training last week, and is resting before the county semi-final.

London Irish against the Army at Sunbury will be without Parfrey who is a Middlesex reserve and Jones, out for four weeks with a dislocated shoulder. Leper is on the wing in place of Parfrey and Webster comes in on the flank for Jones.

are the time

and helped the club to success last season in the Leinster Senior Cup. Waldron, who is studying his honours degree at Trinity said he did not have the time to continue playing.

Waldron played twice for Oxford at Twickenham in 1965 and 1967, and was captain of London Irish for two years.

also of giving support to their own attack. West played as a team and seldom left gaps. Janet Edwards's marking of Mrs Sinclair near West's circle foiled many of East's attacks.

East's captain, Valerie Robson, was by far the most skilful player on the pitch. She was dress in defence, and a constant source of danger in attack but too often made one between the

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Amarnath at short leg catches Lever off Chandrasekhar. Amiss is the other batsman.

Underwood's wickets virtually clinch the Test series

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Madras, Jan 18

With wickets with both the last two balls of the first Test match, Underwood has virtually clinched the series for England. Needing 284 to win India were reduced suddenly to 45 for three, which, with Venkateshkar unlikely to bat again, is the equivalent of 45 for four.

Except when Bedi, the Indian captain, was dragging out his bowlers, England here this evening, after Sunday's slow march, England, in their second innings, declared at 187 for nine after taking 11 wickets. It was the declaration of a side that sees little chance of defeat, though in fact they were glad enough of wickets when Gavaskar, having batted for 90 minutes, was out with 20 minutes left.

Vengaskar had had a bone broken in the back of his head when hit by a ball from Willis, early in India's innings but Gavaskar and Amarnath were looking like keeping India's hopes of survival, even of victory, alive until tomorrow when Underwood began his fourth over. It was off the first ball of the over that Underwood was caught by Woolmer standing square to the wicket at short leg.

Amarnath and Viswanath got through to the last over before Underwood. I doubt whether there is anyone in the world, even the fastest of the fast bowlers, who could bowl a faster ball than Underwood. I doubt whether there is anyone in the world, even the fastest of the fast bowlers, who could bowl a faster ball than Underwood. I doubt whether there is anyone in the world, even the fastest of the fast bowlers, who could bowl a faster ball than Underwood.

Caught like Gavaskar at short leg possibly off the glove Prasanna, coming in to protect one of the few remaining batsmen, fell at once, well caught at first slip by Brearley.

Having started the day at 44 for one, England were 135 for six at lunch. This was India's best session since the first morning of the first Test match. Now as Gavaskar has been bowled out, it is do with it. India rely for penetration upon Chandrasekhar and he has spent most of the series as a mid-air underdog, but a fuller length and bowled a better line. With the odd ball lifting quite steeply he was back to his best which as England know well enough is formidable. At 54 he had Lever caught at short leg, at 83 Amiss was also caught there off the first ball of the over. At 124 Chandrasekhar was bowled out, a long hop, to 12 over this morning Chandrasekhar had taken four for 29 when he bowled Brearley.

Brearley and Amiss both played well until they were out; the spinner which got Randall rose sharply as top spinners tend to do. The best shot of the morning was a six by Underwood, who was caught by Woolmer standing square to the wicket at short leg.

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Greig timed his declaration to make sure of a tea interval. Ideally, he would have preferred a few more runs unless he had closed the innings by half past two. Two would have been a better time to declare. That would have meant a long hot evening in the field. With seven hours 20 minutes left, India were relieved of the need to hurry to win but the ball was turning and the bounce was still uneven.

Although Chandrasekhar and Prasanna had done them well to day, India's batsmen had little reason to be confident. Only once in their last 11 innings against England have they made as many as 284.

England: First Innings 302 (J. M. Brearley 58, 2nd Innings 135, 3rd Innings 135, 4th Innings 135, 5th Innings 135, 6th Innings 135, 7th Innings 135, 8th Innings 135, 9th Innings 135, 10th Innings 135, 11th Innings 135, 12th Innings 135, 13th Innings 135, 14th Innings 135, 15th Innings 135, 16th Innings 135, 17th Innings 135, 18th Innings 135, 19th Innings 135, 20th Innings 135, 21st Innings 135, 22nd Innings 135, 23rd Innings 135, 24th Innings 135, 25th Innings 135, 26th Innings 135, 27th Innings 135, 28th Innings 135, 29th Innings 135, 30th Innings 135, 31st Innings 135, 32nd Innings 135, 33rd Innings 135, 34th Innings 135, 35th Innings 135, 36th Innings 135, 37th Innings 135, 38th Innings 135, 39th Innings 135, 40th Innings 135, 41st Innings 135, 42nd Innings 135, 43rd Innings 135, 44th Innings 135, 45th Innings 135, 46th Innings 135, 47th Innings 135, 48th Innings 135, 49th Innings 135, 50th Innings 135, 51st Innings 135, 52nd Innings 135, 53rd Innings 135, 54th Innings 135, 55th Innings 135, 56th Innings 135, 57th 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Behind the impassive faces

ate Tables

Wardle

with Noel Coward, Ratigan shares the very rare among playwrights of achieving a double success: a work which has been both a critical and a commercial success. The play is a technical difficulty of these mask-faced kind of newspaper-readers to go on behind those faces? Ratigan an answer in two words, involving two stories, involving two characters, involving two continuous support-
as the first piece is ed, insight derives from the minor character. The main story of a ve reunion between a politician and an model constitutes an invasion outside. True, the an is introduced as a but not even Sir John the askew and lacer-
the Bourneville blimp-
formers in different
mesticates the character background.
his distraught ex-wife, in with five pieces of to retrieve him, she is only passing through, I Bourneville plays her for an elegance designed to us for the kindly man's incredible line that never seen anyone in need of help. Bourneville perspectives may be but really I
in fact, has not dealt with Table Number One h the exposition mech-
breaks no less audibly



Photograph by Zoe Dominic

treasure that should not be hidden

the exhibition, *Treasure that should not be hidden*, now at the Victoria and Museum, concentrates on the scope museum's collections of art, a wealth of mate-
w increasing at the rate of some 3,000 examples every year. Together with gifts and bequests are purchases, mainly, though not exclusively, directed to representing present-day developments, in printmaking, book and poster design, watercolours and drawings and designs for a variety of decorative purposes including textiles, wallpaper, stained glass, silver and glassware.
The choice gives vivid illustration of the course of abstract and surrealist ideas in British art of the 1930s and onwards, in watercolours and gouaches by John Piper, Cecil Stephenson, Merlyn Evans in abstract vein, and in the surrealist fancy of Eileen Agar and John Armstrong. The variety of technical processes in modern printmaking is demonstrated in works by Henry Moore, Roy Lichtenstein, Eduardo Paolozzi and others as far out in experiment as Richard Smith.
The selection, however, is not one-sided—the modern student of nature in watercolour is not overlooked, as in the work of John Hode, a pupil of Oskar Kokoschka. The past is not forgotten, as witness the miniature of Lawrence Hilliard and Oliver; an Italian view by the pupil of Richard Wilson, Thomas Jones; the inventive illustrations of the Victorian Richard Doyle.
The liveliness of this stimulating exhibition suggests that the "treasure" of the print room should not be hidden away, but could do with more frequent rediscovery on public view. The present exhibition continues until April 17.

William Gaunt

Enduring qualities of Puvis

Paris is extraordinarily rich in art exhibitions at the moment, of which the most important is undoubtedly that devoted to Puvis de Chavannes: organised jointly by the French National Museums and the National Gallery of Canada, it can be seen at the Grand Palais until February 14, and then in Ottawa from March 18 to May 1.

In his Introduction to the magnificent Catalogue (which costs 60 francs), Jacques Foucart pays homage to the artist's "lucid grandeur" and "exemplary dignity" and it is indeed these somewhat unfashionable but enduring qualities that come over so powerfully. Puvis does not disarm the cynic, he simply overwhelms him by the majestic monumentality of his images. Born in Lyon in 1834, Pierre Puvis de Chavannes was intended for an engineering career, but poor health led to his being sent at the age of 23 to Italy, whence he returned with the determination to become a painter. He studied with Henri Scheffer, but it was Theodore Chassériau, a pupil of Ingres, who most influenced the young painter, and in his studio Puvis met the woman who was to inspire many of his finest works, the Princess Cantacuzène.
His early works exude an atmosphere of decadent exoticism, which derives from Chassériau, and which Gustave Moreau was to exploit and develop much more fully: in his *Salomé* of 1856, Puvis shows the daughter of Herodias holding aloft the charger as a signal to the executioner far below her, while in the even more explicit *Saint Sébastien* of the following year the four young archers seem totally unaware of the sagging body of their companion-victim suspended by his wrists in the background. A fine red-chalk study for the figure of the saint is exhibited alongside the oil, as well as the artist's own etching after the whole composition.
It was at the Salon of 1861 that Puvis had his first big success, with two allegorical canvases illustrating the contrasting themes of war (*Belium*) and peace (*Concordia*) which prompted the critic Théophile Gautier to compare the painter with the great decorators of the Ecole de Fontainebleau, and the state to purchase them for the new museum at Amiens where they became the nucleus of a complete scheme of decoration executed over a number of years. Fortunately, like some of the great Baroque decorative painters, Puvis often executed small-scale replicas of his compositions, many of which are included in the exhibition, as well as some of his marvellous preparatory drawings made from the living model.
He also produced preliminary sketches (the equivalent of the Italian *bozzetti*) and two remarkably fluid studies for the museum at Marseille, which were lent by the Phillips Collection, Washington: the subjects are *Messilia, colomie creceque* and



The Prodigal Son

Marseille, porte de l'Orient. The grandiloquent Palais Longchamp at Marseille (which contains two museums) was built by Henri Espérandieu from 1852, and Puvis carried out his mural decorations between 1867 and 1869. A year later he began work on the decoration of the Town Hall at Poitiers, and in 1874 he carried out his first commission for the Pantheon in Paris, *The Childhood of Saint Genevieve*, for which the full-size cartoon on canvas has recently been rediscovered in reserves of the Musée Royaux d'Art et d'Histoire at Brussels.
The Pantheon is of course open to the public (except on Tuesdays) so that the murals (in oil on canvas, like all his decorations) can be studied on site, together with the much later group (1897-98) which includes the unforgettable image of *St Genevieve watching over the sleeping city*. The other decorations in Paris are not so easy of access: the Grand Amphithéâtre de la Sorbonne (1888-89) is theoretically open to the public during the run of the exhibition on Friday afternoons (2-5) and on Saturdays (10-12, 2-5) but on the day I went it was firmly locked and only opened with considerable reluctance.
The stairwells of the Hôtel de Ville can be visited only on Monday mornings at 10.30, with a guide, but it is well worth the effort, since as well as the rooms decorated by Puvis it houses a comprehensive collection of "pompiers" painting which covers every available surface. The Salon du Zodiaque is one of the most successful of all the schemes carried out (1897-92) by Puvis, consisting of two large panels, *Winter and Summer*, and four spandrels, in which the painter uses the awkward shape to brilliant effect. Highly finished sketches of two main scenes are included in the exhibition, as well as several studies for the *Escalier d'Honneur*, which Puvis also decorated, but much less effectively.
Some of the finest things in the exhibition are easel pictures that do not relate to any of his decorative schemes: *The Prodigal Son* of 1879, the justly famous *Poor Fisherman* (1881) and the *Portrait of Princess Cantacuzène* (c 1883), which is shown together with some penetrating pencil studies. Puvis married the princess in 1897, barely 15 months before he died.

Jeffery Daniels

Abbado records the Scala Boccanegra

Few better opera sets were issued last year than DG's recording of Verdi's *Macbeth*. The strength came from the quality of ensemble and the ability to convey the involvement and intensity of a stage performance on disc. The cast used, with a couple of changes, was that of La Scala. DG simply moved them, together with the orchestra, chorus and conductor, Claudio Abbado down to the new television studios at the western extension of Milan's metro.

DG have just completed recording another of the Scala's successes, *Simon Boccanegra*, with a similar team in Milan. London had a taste of its quality when La Scala came here last March and recognized *Boccanegra* as one of the finest Verdi productions of recent years, even though Strehler's staging had to be trimmed to the dimensions of the Opera House stage. The commitment of Piero Cappuccini in the title role, of Mirella Freni's Amelia and of Claudio Abbado's conducting set the standards by which future *Boccanegras* will have to be judged.

DG kept the nucleus of the Milan side for the recording and added in Jose Carreras as Gabriele Adorno, Jose van Dam as Paolo and Nicolai Ghiaurov as Fiesco. No weaknesses there on paper. Claudio Abbado is back with La Scala, at least for recording purposes, after his resignation last summer. He is guarded about his return to the theatre itself, which is the subject of almost daily speculation in the local papers, but has no reservations about his devotion to *Boccanegra*.

"It is one of the operas I love most and, if you go back to Verdi's letters, you can see the place it had in the composer's heart. On a more personal level, I cherish it because it was the first opera on which I worked with Giorgio Strehler, and I think we did quite well together. We planned it as part of a cycle of the operas to which Verdi returned, *Macbeth*, which you've already seen, and *Don Carlos* being the other two."

How far is Abbado trying to create a theatre production on record? "I think we are trying to give a sense of theatre. We keep on remembering the stage because many of us worked together for so long on the production: sometimes we use the same positioning as, for instance, when *Boccanegra* moves backwards with that cry 'Il mare' in the final act. But on record precision is paramount. In the theatre a little



Claudio Abbado during the Boccanegra sessions

licence with the music might be allowed here and there because of the demands of the stage; in the studios there must be total fidelity to the score."
During the sessions the Scala orchestra plays for Abbado with a fire and immediacy which some of their regular conductors have no ability to command. Did he make many changes among the personnel while he was there? "Yes, there were one or two replacements. The orchestra is certainly more cosmopolitan than it was and we now have Bulgarians, Romanians and even Americans in the pit. But if there has been an im-

provement in the sound, as you say, then I think it is because of greater personal pride within and without the theatre. When I came in 1968 there were only a couple of quarters which the players had formed among themselves; now there must be at least 10 ensembles in various sections giving public and private performances."

And will Abbado return to La Scala? "If the terms are right, yes. I want to conduct *Don Carlos* and record it for DG. We also have plans for new productions of *Il ballo in maschera* and *Nabucco*, which could also be the basis for recordings although not necessarily with DG."

John Higgins

Tancredi Queen Elizabeth Hall

William Mann

Monday's concert performance of *Tancredi*, Rossini's first international success as a composer of opera, was no *ad hoc* run-through but an import from France. Its conductor, John Perras, had been asked by the House of Culture in Rennes to prepare, cast and conduct the work for stage performances in Rennes, Angers and Orleans. The cast was selected after auditions organized for Mr Perras by our Park Lane Group who presented this concert hearing in London after the performances in France last month and after a commercial recording for the gramophone.
Mr Perras's performing edition was of special interest in including an extra aria for the principal tenor at the beginning of Act II, and a different setting of the subsidiary soprano's aria just afterwards; it included all the other numbers commonly printed (but not Tancredi's "Viva Le Ombre" with horn obbligato, which we heard at Camden Festival in 1971) as well as all the recitatives.
Tancredi was famous, for about half a century after its Venice premiere in 1813, for the "Viva Le Ombre" which the title part, written for a female mezzo-soprano, not a male castrato, was undertaken by Patricia Price, nicely though not effortlessly. PLG provided the male chorus and the orchestra, conducted with fervent spirit as well as scholarly care by Mr Perras; the recitatives did go on and on, sometimes a bit tentatively (they were evidently abbreviated in the opera-house, though the singers sang everything by heart). It was a long but enjoyable evening.

Murray Perahia St John's/Radio 3

Joan Chissell

Nothing cheered Schumann more towards the end of his days than discovering the young Brahms. As a sexagenarian, Brahms in his turn confessed that having known Schumann was one of the three things that had made his own life most worth living. So both composers would have been well content with their pairing in Murray Perahia's recital in the Monday lunchtime series broadcast from St John's, Smith Square.
Mr Perahia's affection for Schumann is well known. On this occasion he chose the youthful *Papillons Op 2*, the first of the composer's several invitations to the dance. Mr Perahia, never forgot the background of the masked ball, keeping each number crisp and buoyant. Despite the resonance of St John's, it was perhaps the crystalline clarity of his sound world that impressed most over

the cavatina sung by Tancredi when lost behind the Saracene lines. There is plenty of splendid, expressive orchestral music, more to German than Italian taste of the time, but much to the liking of a modern audience.
Heavy technical demands are made on the principal singers, as a matter of course, the subsidiary parts as much as hero and heroine. Mr Perras, perhaps counting on small opera-houses for his performances, chose young British singers, attractive in timbre, neatly focused but not large: all the fluidity of a modern day was tidily and expressively sung, but not loudly, often with recourse to half-voice or falsetto, as was the custom in Rossini's youth.
The biggest and most characteristic voice was that of Tom McDonnell, who much enjoyed himself with the blacker-than-black vituperation and sneering of the villainous Chazano. Keith Lewis who sang the heroine's royal father, displayed a likable tenor, quite strong but most attractive in half-voice (when he strongly recalled Richard Lewis with whom he has studied), using a singer though his Italian is faulty.
Hannah Francis sang charmingly, sometimes rather too discreetly, with admirable neatness and appreciation of line, as the heroine, particularly in her second act aria "Giusto palpiti". The title part, written for a female mezzo-soprano, not a male castrato, was undertaken by Patricia Price, nicely though not effortlessly. PLG provided the male chorus and the orchestra, conducted with fervent spirit as well as scholarly care by Mr Perras; the recitatives did go on and on, sometimes a bit tentatively (they were evidently abbreviated in the opera-house, though the singers sang everything by heart). It was a long but enjoyable evening.

the radio. Nothing was obscured by the right pedal. Always he found something new to emphasize in repeats. In the beautiful finale he was uncommonly successful in delineating cross-currents of tune and rhythm.
From Brahms Mr Perahia chose the *Handel Variations*, written in defiance of the New German School to show that the spirit of the past was anything but dead. Here again Mr Perahia eschewed heavily pedalled washes of sound and all romantic self-indulgences in favour of classical purity. The theme itself could not have been outlined with a more delicate precision and clarity even by a harpsichordist. Now and again his tempo seemed a bit deliberate, as if in mortal dread of wrong notes—these were in fact very few and far between. But Mr Perahia found controlled strength for the bigger outbursts, and from variation 23 clearly began the ascent for the mighty fugue, a true climax. For encore Mr Perahia turned to Schumann's youthful idol, Schubert, finding both the lyrical elegance and the resolution prompted for the E flat Impromptu Op 90.

Costly theatrical imports

Seat prices higher than those at Covent Garden would have to be charged if Sadler's Wells Theatre met the fees charged by some foreign companies, Mr Douglas Craig, director of Sadler's Wells, said on Monday.
The whole house would have to average £5-£7 a seat, he said, "and this is wholly outside our charter. We would alienate our public to charge those sort of prices."
On the theatre's financial situation, he said their net deficit of over £3,000 would have been a figure "in the black" of £2,000 without value-added tax.

Five foreign companies make their first visit this year: the Royal Danish Academy, Copenhagen (March); Copenhagen Opera (May); Greek Art Theatre (May); Les Dansees Sacrees de Bali (August); Korean National Dance Company (August).
Return visits are to be made by the London Opera Centre (March and July); Royal Northern College of Music (March); London Contemporary Dance Theatre (April and November); Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet (April and September); English Music Theatre Company (June); D'Oyly Carte Opera Company (July and December); Kabuki (August) and the Handel Opera Society (October).

Sotheby's Book Sales

THURSDAY, 20th JANUARY, and the following day, at 1 pm at 115 Chancery Lane (Hodgson's Rooms), London WC2A 1PX

Printed Books

including the property of the late Wyndham Leigh Walker, from the library partly formed by T. A. Walker, and other owners, comprising books on law, including Bodin's *Les Six Livres de la République*, Paris, 1576; Clavius's *Arithmetica*, 1605; 15 vols. of *Œuvres de Marin Le Maréchal*, 1584; La Constitution Française, Paris, 1793; Exton's *The Maritime Jurisprudence*, 1664; Grotius, *A Collection of Works including Of the Law of War and Peace*, 1625; Leibnitz, *Medes Juris Gentium*, 2 vols., Hannover, 1693-1700, and *Opera Omnia*, 6 vols., Geneva, 1768; Powell's *The Attorney's Academy*, 1630; Pufendorf, *A Collection of Works including De Jure Naturae et Gentium*, London, 1672; Selden, *A Collection of Works including The Origin of the Law*, 1650; Sutherland's *The Practice, Proceeding, and Law of Armes*, 1593; Trial of Alexander M. Loed for the Murder of Amos Durfee, New York, 1841; All England Law Reports, 36 vol., 1936-67, and 79 vol., 1947-75; Dalloz *Jurisprudence Générale*, 82 vol., Paris, 1863-1941; England and Empire Digest, 1916-74; Law Reports in all the Courts, 302 vol., 1891-1974; Reports of Tax Cases, 41 vol., 1884-1967; Weekly Law Reports, 57 vol., 1957-71; On Diplomacy including British and Foreign State Papers, 54 vol., 1841-1904; Dumont's *Corps Universel Diplomatique du Droit des Gens*, 13 vol., Amsterdam and the Hague, 1726-39; Milton's *Letters of State*, 1694; A Collection of Parliamentary Blue-Books on Africa, the Americas, Far East, Middle East and Slave Trade; Rymer's *Fœderes*, 10 vols., The Hague, 1745-59; and on History, Memoirs, Travel, Etc., including Camden Society Publications, 66 vol., 1840-1934; Gombell's *Le XVe Davidis Paulinis Epica Paraphrasus*, 1584; Le Clerc's *Histoire de la République Ancienne et Moderne*, 6 vols., Paris, 1783-94; Marmora Arundelliana, 1628; Pallas' *Travels through the Southern Provinces of the Russian Empire*, 2 vol., 1802; 03: Perceval's *History of Venice*, 1638; A Collection of engraved portraits relative to Cambridge; Puysegur's *Art de la Guerre*, Paris, 1748; Roger's and Johnson's *Atlas of the United States*, 1857; Sully's *Memoires*, 2 vol. in 1, Amsterdam, [1638]; and a few maps. Cat. 40p

MONDAY, 24th JANUARY, and the following day, at 11 am at 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1A 2AA

Printed Books

the property of John Allen-Minhouse, Esq., The Dominican Order in Scotland, The Birmingham & Midland Institute, the late J. Hannan, Esq., gold by order of the Executors, J. L. B. Todhunter, Esq., and other owners, comprising English and Continental literature, history and science of the 16th to the 17th century including Strutt, *Works*, 9 vol., 1714-1852; Chocquet's *Laclos*, *Essai sur la Conscience*, 1798; [De]Coe, *Calendario*, 1706; Nicade, *The double armed man*, 1625; [Shakespeare], *The Tempest*, 1690; Montaigne, *Les Essais*, 2 vol. in 1, Lyons, 1593; Carey, *Poems*, 1713; Hogarth, *Works*, Boydell, [c. 1800]; Barons, *Annales Ecclesiastiques*, 12 vol., France, 1800; *Le Livre de la Castellanerie*, *Vanaria reale palazzo di Pinerolo*, 1674; Newton, *Philosophiæ naturalis principia mathematica*, 1713, and *Opera omnia*, 3 vol., 1779-85; Davy, *Researches... concerning Nitrous Gas*, 1800; *History of the British Empire*, 1791; *History of the British Empire*, 1801; Ogilby, *Britannia*, [1688]; Stow, *Survey of London*, 1720; Camden, *Britannia*, 1695; Cary, *New English Atlas*, 1809; Ogilby, *Asia*, 1673; Burchard, *Travels in Arabia*, 1829; Batou, *Scenes of the Rhine*, 1826, and *Hannoverian and Saxony scenery*, 1829; Byrne and Hearse, *Antiquities of Great Britain*, 1801; Sandby, *150 select views*, [c. 1785]; Baily, *Italian, French, German scenery*, [etc.], 5 vol., 1820-29 Cat. 50p

Bernard Levin

Picking up the bits and pieces of a city that died in an instant

Can a dog be happy without first having been miserable? Thus ran the old philosophical puzzle. And I suppose I shall be considered churlish for saying that there is an extra pleasure to be derived from the election of Sir Hugh Casson as president of the Royal Academy in the fact that he is the first holder of that position within living memory whose work does not impel anyone of even ordinary artistic sensibility to pull the bedclothes up over the head and scream. Indeed, without checking the list of past FRAs I cannot think of a genuinely distinguished artist who has held the post in modern times and it is perhaps significant that in order to find one the academy had to turn to an architect. (Mind you, Sir Hugh is not the first architect-FRA, but if you want to be reminded of the previous president from that profession, go and look at Bracken House, the Financial Times building. You'll be sorry.)

That is by way of prolegomena to my theme, which is the Pompeii exhibition at the academy. I realize, of course, that the gestation period of such shows being what it is, this one was planned long before Sir Hugh assumed office; but it has fallen to his lot to write the customary preface to the catalogue (a sumptuous and wonderfully informative volume, incidentally, the work of John Ward-Perkins and Amanda Claridge), in which he reminds us that "No event

in history perhaps has caught so sharply the human imagination or been held so firmly in our memory as the overwhelming of this 'modest provincial town'.

That is indeed true; and Sir Hugh offers two explanations for it. First is that of the psychologists, who tell us "that the capacity to imagine disaster is a primitive but essential part of our human capacity to survive, part of our need to confront death when we are not ourselves dying". Second is his own:

"... we remember Pompeii not just for its human tragedy, nor even for the strange accident which kept its secrets so perfectly and for so long, but for the wealth and quality of its art—the paintings and furniture, the mosaics and sculpture, the architecture, jewellery and treasures, the whole man-made environment of its legendary life-style."

But there is surely another explanation, and it is the one that confronts us most sharply at the exhibition: it is the almost uniquely dramatic quality of the city's fate. Many towns in history have been destroyed in natural or man-made disasters: tidal waves, earthquakes, bombings, fires. But Pompeii stands alone because of the extraordinary microcosm of the human condition it portrayed. The reason for the perfection of the portrait was that the agent of destruction was also the means of preservation; but the portrait itself was of all humanity. How many

shipwrecked voyagers have died because they insisted on going to the shore for some precious jewel or memento instead of making at once for the boats? How many of those trapped in a fire have left their escape too late because they stayed to take something with them from the loot? Even in one of the least terrible of all the world's disasters—the collapse of the Campanile in Venice in 1902, after it had stood for a thousand years—where no human being died (the building was seen to be tottering some days before it fell, and the area was evacuated and roped off), there was just such a four-legged casualty in the lodge-keeper's cat, which had insisted on going back through the cordons to finish its breakfast. (The cat, incidentally, was called Vesuvio.) This inability to face the necessity of instant flight was seen at its most intense in Pompeii; it is true that many died because, though they had fled at once, they were overcome by the fumes in the outskirts of the city or on the jammed roads beyond, but many others were frozen for ever in the very act of taking their possessions from a drawer, or on the way down to the cellars of their houses to pack sacred belongings. Most of us have played the after-dinner game in which we are asked to say what single possession we would take with us if forced to flee for our lives from home and country: such conversation is rooted in one of the deepest of all

human instincts, the desire for possession, be it only of some toy or trinket, some book or piece of no value to anyone but ourselves, infused as it is for us with the human associations that it conjures up.

That is one part of the drama of Pompeii on August 24, 79 AD. But in addition to the elements provided by our feeling of identification with the victims—not only those who dallied too long, but also those who were caught and transfixed literally in mid-stride, thus becoming so much more human and recognizable for us than any Pharaoh in his sandalwood sarcophagus—there is the no less dramatic quality of the fact that the city's death and immortality took place almost in a single instant, so that every aspect of its normal life was and is visible.

Sir Hugh Casson is right to draw attention to the richness and variety of Pompeii's art, an enormous selection of which is included in this exhibition (I found the paintings a little insipid, but it may be that colour was less well preserved by the volcanic matter than were the three-dimensional objects); but far more dramatically evocative are the ordinary things of life that perished with their users, and that would not have been thought of by those years, let alone two thousand. The hairpins and mirrors, for instance, the coins, the garden ornaments (rather prettier, most of them than your

average plastic gnome of today), the lamps and jugs and bottles, the doctor's scales and the tradesman's stamp, the carpenter's plane and the schoolboy's inkpot, the dice and knucklebones; and, perhaps the strangest and in some ways the most touching of all, the marble slab, beautifully incised, which curls out to be neither more nor less than an advertisement:

The Baths of Marcus Crassus Frugi. Sea-water and fresh-water bathing. Ammiratus, freedman.

It is this quality of immediate recognition that for me provided the most fascinating aspect of the Pompeii exhibition. The religious and other ceremonies and rituals portrayed or implied (remember that Christianity was not to become the religion of the Empire for more than another two centuries) are interesting, but the modern spectator remains detached from them. The works of art and ornament are in many cases (the sculpture especially) of very great beauty. But the colander, the ear-rings, the folding ruler, the comb and the slab which recorded that the work of reconstruction at the Pompeii Theatre was done by a firm of architects run by Marcus Arundus—these are the things which bring the dead to life, only for them to die again before our eyes under the fiery rain, our brothers and sisters in their ordinary existence and their extraordinary misfortune.

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Everyone knows there is drug abuse in Britain, but just how serious is it



It is only a matter of time before Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, or Mr Ennals, his counterpart at the Department of Health, are questioned in the Commons on Britain's drug abuse problems.

Almost a decade after the last scare about narcotic abuse in Britain there are signs that the scourge of public health is about to flare up again. Once there were fears that London would become another New York, now comparisons are being made with Amsterdam, now the heroin capital of Europe.

Ministers may be asked how big the problem is? They may be asked what addictive drugs are being abused apart from heroin and how many users there are? It will be difficult for the ministers to give any accurate answer.

Since 1969 when the drug dependency clinics were opened, the Home Office has published figures annually for the number of addicts notified and the number receiving treatment. Civil servants said this was the best they could do and very few addicts were omitted.

They argued that examination of the figures for deaths by overdosing provided a check on whether or not the problem was growing. It was said these figures reflected the use of heroin outside the system of clinics since death by overdosing should not occur among registered addicts receiving prescribed supplies.

Now it is admitted that few of the figures provide an accurate indication of the size of the abuse problem or the illicit drugs trade. In 1975, the last year for which figures have been published, the Home Office reported 3,340 notified narcotic addicts. Drug squad officers were then talking about at least double this number actually existing in and outside the clinics.

It can be argued that drug squads have a vested interest in inflating the situation but civil servants are now admitting that the grey area outside their statistics is bigger than they were earlier prepared to admit.

One reason is that heroin smoking has become a fashion among addicts and would-be addicts, which means that they will take longer to come to the notice of doctors than if they took heroin intravenously with all the attendant risks of dirty needles and doubtful concoctions. Such a custom also

Stewart Te

Untangling the complex mysteries of Mars

Some of the tantalizing questions about Mars raised by the American Viking spacecraft last year are to be investigated. The second and longest phase of the mission is about to begin, now that instruments switched off two months ago, just before the planet moved behind the Sun, can be revived. Certainly, work should continue throughout 1977 and, it may be hoped, longer.

In the interim, 81 senior scientists in charge of the 13 different categories of investigation have not completed their interpretation of the mass of information from the first part of the project.

Some of the difficulty comes in trying to reconcile what the wide range of discoveries about Mars tell the scientist about its formation, its age and the processes that have altered its shape and the composition of its atmosphere over millions of years.

Uncertainties with the biological experiments have overshadowed very important findings like the existence of oxygen, argon, nitrogen, krypton and xenon in the atmosphere. An analysis of nitrogen, argon, krypton and xenon is extremely important in reconstructing the history of how the planet "outgassed" and lost volatile materials to space.

These studies suggest that Mars previously had an atmosphere about ten times denser than now. There is also evidence of massive flooding which caused the canyons. All this fits very well with evidence that water may have existed on the planet.

Many scientists have considered that organic chemistry experiments made on the surface would be crucial in answering questions about primitive life forms. Organic compounds can be produced either by biological or chemical processes: so the presence of organic compounds is not in itself an indication of life. But no organic compounds have been detected by the sensitive chemical apparatus on either of the two Viking landers.

The two spacecraft are more than 5,000 miles apart. Indeed, the second site chosen for the exploration of Mars has been given a location geologically different from the first one. In fact, the close geological similarity between the two sites has been one of the many surprises of the expedition. Both are rich in iron and have almost exactly the same composition of their major ele-

ments. Like calcium, aluminium, silicon and sulphur.

But the geological similarities are not as perplexing as those produced by the biological experiments, which do not square with the organic chemistry one. In fact, the mystery about interpreting the biological investigation continued until the instruments were switched off. One of the last experiments took soil from beneath a rock, showing again intriguing activity that appeared to be consistent with the existence of tiny molecules that could have been produced by a biochemical process.

Dr Gerald Soffen, chief scientist for the Viking project, describes some of the reasons for being perplexed. He said they had prepared themselves for a difficult task: untangling the mystery of whether organic compounds came from life or non-life processes. The fact that no organic compounds were found raised questions like: where is the material from meteorites containing chemically formed organic compounds? Some traces, at least, were expected from bombardment of Mars by these so-called carbonaceous chondrites.

Their absence is almost as embarrassing for the experimenters as trying to explain what has happened in the special biological experiments. In fact, the biological examinations are to be continued for at least another 100 days.

Tests with identical equipment on earth of soil samples from the Antarctic show that these samples can be incubated for three or four months before organic compounds can be identified, showing the existence of cases of biological molecules which withstand low temperatures.

Meteorological equipment on the Viking craft confirm temperatures are cold with the highest measurements being about -32 deg C. Nevertheless, conditions in the first part of the project have been quicker than expected. However, just before Mars disappeared behind the Sun, blocking communications, measurements of weather conditions showed for five days a front: The wind came steadily over the horizon, giving a location geologically different from the first one. In fact, the close geological similarity between the two sites has been one of the many surprises of the expedition. Both are rich in iron and have almost exactly the same composition of their major ele-

ments. Like calcium, aluminium, silicon and sulphur.

Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Mr Jenkins must lift 'the frozen mitt' from EEC social policy

Emphasis on the need for community policies for public health is welcome. The same cannot be said for industrial relations

Mr Roy Jenkins has let it be known that his presidency of the European Commission will be characterized by a concentration on policies with a direct human impact. He will have a very early opportunity to convert aspiration into action. A new Community social action programme, covering the period to 1980, has to be agreed with the Council of Ministers over the next few months.

The Commission's proposals were presented to the council just before Christmas, and given what the incoming President, P. G. Wodehouse used to call "the old frozen mitt" treatment. The new Commission will have to retrieve the situation, by producing a more convincing programme and fighting for it. It is a rare moment when its predecessors were able to muster.

The Commission's first social action programme, covering the period 1974-76, was the centrepiece of the range of new policies designed to give the Community a human face. It included the establishment of the regional fund, measures for environmental control and consumer protection, and the expanded programme of overseas aid.

The social action programme encompassed a wide range of measures to promote economic, social, and cultural progress, equal opportunities for women, worker participation and labour relations, health and safety, action to help migrant workers, rehabilitation of the disabled, anti-poverty measures, improvements in social protection, and so on.

The programme was broadly successful in its first two years, but during 1976 the pace of achievement fell away sharply, leaving large parts of the programme uncompleted by the end of the year. These measures (largely concerned with action to help migrants and the extension of social protection) will presumably be carried out during 1977.

But more important than the completion of the first programme is the establishment of guidelines for the second programme. According to the resolution of the Council of Ministers which approved the first programme on January 21, 1974, the second programme was to have been agreed by the end of 1976. That deadline has been missed, and there is a danger of a vacuum developing in this politically very sensitive area.

Responsibility for failure to meet the deadline falls squarely on the shoulders of the outgoing Commission. Although a draft second social

action programme is known to have been circulating in Brussels a year ago, the Commission chose instead to present a rather vague document described as a "validatory statement" by the outgoing social affairs commissioner, Dr Patrick Hillery (now president of Ireland).

This document starts by reporting the state of play on the various measures in the 1974-76 programme, concluding in one of the more remarkable self-contradictions to emerge from the Brussels word-factory in recent years: "This report... gives the Commission reason to believe that it has fully carried out the tasks assigned to it by the Council resolution of January 21, 1974."

Rarely has the concern for appearance over reality, the besetting sin of the former Commission, been so shamelessly paraded. It is small wonder that the ministers, knowing the facts, should have treated the rest of the report with scant courtesy. But it is unfortunate, for misstatements about the past are much less important than proposals for the future. And the social problems in the European Community, as the Commission paper makes clear, certainly require vigorous action.

The Commission's guidelines for the new programme look like a watered-down version of the old one, with the same general priorities: employment, labour relations, social protection and public health—and insistence on the achievement of a social consensus (evidently the new version of the word to replace "participation").

The emphasis on the need for Community policies in the field of public health is new, and welcome. The same cannot be said for the section on industrial relations.

Here the Commission chooses to resurrect, as one of

its few concrete proposals, the suggestion that the Community institutions should invite both sides of industry together to try to draw up European-wide collective bargaining agreements. This is an idea which has been around in Brussels for some time, partly because a minority of European trade unionists are keen on it, partly because some of the more cloistered Eurocrats have developed a Pavlovian reaction to any proposal, however harebrained, which has the adjective "European" in front of it.

Given the fact that average take-home pay, in real terms, is now twice as high in Germany as in Britain—and the gap is widening week by week—it is not at all clear how meaningful Community-wide collective bargaining is going to be. It is not, without holding back the richer countries and imposing impossible inflationary burdens on the poorer (who have much higher inflation rates anyway).

The sole effect of resurrecting this idea now will be to frighten employers away from cooperating with unions, governments and Commission in the area where such cooperation is really needed—in the field of employment forecasting and structural adaptation.

The Commission is on much surer ground in its proposals to combat unemployment, and to develop a social consensus with unions and employers which can help to hold down inflationary pressures—a kind of Europeanized "New Deal" with industrial strategy and social contract. This is the aspect on which Mr Jenkins and his colleagues should concentrate, in the revision and strengthening of the document which will now clearly be passed.

Although the Commission has not so far dared to breathe the words "incomes policy", it

is plainly edging towards doing so.

No social consensus which fails to grasp this nettle will be worth much. On the other side, the Commission has not been inactive in promoting industrial democracy in the interests of the unions.

The two directives designed to protect workers' interests in collective redundancy situations and when the ownership of the firm changes (the second was passed last month by the council), will soon be followed by a third, dealing with individual redundancy provisions. Further measures to promote equality at work between men and women—notably in the area of social security—are in the pipeline. The Commission is helping to finance the setting-up of a European Trade Union Institute.

On worker participation, the Commission is preparing a draft document or works council to complement its Green Paper on worker representation at board level. It is working on proposals to extend social security and protect minimum wages, and to develop a European fund for investment funds financed by compulsory levies on industry (as has been proposed separately in Denmark, Sweden, Germany and the Netherlands).

So the Commission has already, over the last few years, gone quite a long way to prepare the ground for a U.K. social contract, at EEC level. Now is the time to capitalize on this, as the British Labour Government capitalized on the social contract in the autumn of 1975, to establish with the unions a voluntary system of incomes restraint coupled with specific agreed measures of social reform.

If this can be done, it is possible that inflation will not revive with the eventual pick-up in economic activity. That it should not do so is today probably the single most important requirement for the future well-being of European society. And it is possible that faster progress can be made to restructure European industry, and reduce unemployment levels, than today seems feasible.

A social policy which focused on these objectives would have to be much more closely linked with economic and with industrial policy at Community level than has been the case. This is another reason why the president himself should be seen to play an active role in this field.

Michael Shanks

The Times Diary

Into the 20th century at last

It is 94 years since it made its flickering debut in the streets of London, and it is 20 years since the 37 inhabitants of one of the most remote communities in England asked if they could have it. Now they are at last about to receive the benefits of Michael Faraday's much-acclaimed invention, electricity. Walsdale Head consists of four farms, two cottages, a hotel, a camping site, a climbing hut, and the second smallest church in the country. It clings to a pocket-handkerchief of stony ground between England's highest mountains and her deepest lakes, where hardy men read harder sheep, and receive snowstorms of interference on their television screens because of unreliable diesel generators. Hemmed in by Scotch Fells, Grease Gable and Kirk Fell on the one side, and the dark, still depths of Wastwater on the other, Walsdale Head proclaims itself as the birthplace of rock climbing. It is five miles from the nearest mains electricity, and only 12 miles from Windermere and Calder Hall, where

the country's first nuclear power station still pumps out the megawatts. This last dark corner of England has been promised light at the end of March.

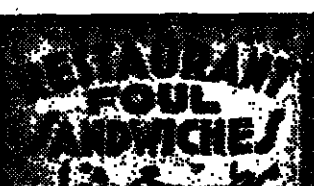
This is one of the drawbacks of living in an area of outstanding natural beauty. The North-Western Electricity Board were, understandably, forbidden to string wires on overhead pylons up the valley. To lay the cable underground, all the way would have cost about £100,000 and that, according to Stanley Bulmer, the board's area manager, would have meant asking each household for an installation charge of £10,000.

After years of indecision and delay, a satisfactory compromise has been reached. The Countryside Commission has provided a grant of £27,000: the National Trust, which owns most of the land, has come up with £10,000; a 20-strong gang of free labour has been recruited under the Job Creation Programme, and Norweb has agreed to meet the rest. The cable will be laid underground

and on the bed of the lake, with only two short and discreet stretches, mounted on small wooden poles, showing above ground. The householders of Walsdale Head will be paying £450 each to be wired up to civilisation.

Bill Bailey, assistant manager of the Wastwater Hotel, has mixed feelings about it. The hotel has been asked for a £2,000 connection charge. A year ago, he swore that mains power would come so soon, they installed two large and costly diesel generators, which run the lights, storage heaters, beer pumps and evening entertainment.

"We have waited for it for long enough. Had we known it would actually arrive, we would never have put the new generators in. They have broken down four times, and we have to get a man all the way from Manchester to repair them. And they can only take a limited load; sometimes if a guest brings his own electric blanket, we have to offer him a choice between a warm bed and a hot meal, not both." Electrification will mean being able to put electric kettles in all bedrooms. Scott Naylor, who owns a huge acreage of steep, bleak fellside. He too has a generator, which on a quiet day drinks two and a half gallons of dirty free agricultural diesel. "If I am winning the sheep clipper, my wife cannot do the framing."



This historic sign was photographed in 1941 by an RAF comrade of Bernard Butler, of Walsdale Head.

They had bought a freezer in anticipation of the new power, and were trying it out on the generator, but had to unplug it when they wanted to use anything else. Fresh meat has, until now, been a once-a-month treat.

Kath Naylor, standing by the huge solid-fuel range in her farmhouse kitchen, was bemused by the recent explosion of her washing machine. "Something got overloaded, and it went up in smoke. It's the same with the electric mixer; when I switch it on all the lights go dim. And the television is a dead loss." In spite of laboratory digging trenches into account in doors, and engineers hauling reels of cable up the valley, the residents retain some scepticism and will continue to do so until the juice is actually flowing. They tell of a local resident

church, and the vicar comes only once a fortnight. At the moment it has two oil lamps and a portable gas heater, which is of more benefit to the preacher than to the congregation.

Mrs Buchanan is expecting her baby at about the time of the switch-on. Her farmhouse kitchen has a gigantic Aga range and a vacuum cleaner. "We paid so much for the connection, we can't afford any fancy gadgets. And don't you go writing that I'm buying a deep-freeze, or my bed-and-breakfast customers will be told they can't stay."

Casual visitors to this stark and beautiful valley will benefit too. The National Trust camp site has hot showers and a climbing club but is to have heat and light. The club was divided on whether to pay for the privilege; some members said they came to Walsdale to get away from such things, while others argued that after a day on the high fells a bit of heat was a great relief. The sojourn won the day, and they took their 240.

In spite of laboratory digging trenches into account in doors, and engineers hauling reels of cable up the valley, the residents retain some scepticism and will continue to do so until the juice is actually flowing. They tell of a local resident

who, when canvassed by Norweb 14 years ago about the desirability of mains power, rushed to Whitehaven and bought an electric kettle. It is still in its box.

Traffic jams in Lagos, the capital of Nigeria, have become so bad that a new edict bans cars with even numbers from the roads on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and cars with odd numbers on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. A Nigerian University School of Medicine says that on the days when she is not allowed to use her car to get to work she has to telephone for an ambulance to come and fetch her—doubling the journey involved.

Wowee !!

P. H. Simplessverik, my economic correspondent, writes: "Raise the roof! Clap your feet! Let the golden wedding bells chime! The trade figures for December (traditionally a traditional month) show that Britain is once again bouncing into the black at last."

Even taking into account the visible and seasonal factors, the figures show that Britain has a dramatic surplus of £21 million on the month's trading. If this can be sustained for just 14 more months, the November

"Surely it's a case for 'Not in front of the workers'!"



deficit of £309 million will be completely obliterated.

Shares, Government stocks and jubilation all experienced a sharp upturn in Throgmorton Street. Brokers cracked champagne bottles as the Financial Times index soared through the roof to a barely preceded 374.4.

It is notable that this start

ling improvement has place less than a week at Prime Minister took over the reins of power from discredited Chancellor.

lan James Callaghan said today: "This just shows how firm a hand on the tiller. Although it is unwelcome to me, I can confidently say that by this time next month we shall have unemployment and cuts in by two-thirds and sterling will be riding high. Income tax will be down, beer and cigarettes will be up. What will you be doing? Will you be writing about it?"

At last we have it. We have turned the corner. We can hardly see for the do brightness of the light at the end of the tunnel. We are short on our way to a new dawn. Next week: New crisis!

"Alph Bakshi, the latest 'or to attempt a film of J. Tolkien's Lord of the Rings' says he envisages Middle-earth as being somewhere in English Midlands. The film will never recover if his turn out to have a Country accent."

P



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EY, ROUND THE CORNER

Year, like spring and harvest, has its reflexes; and one of them is an annual outburst of less optimism. All New Year oratoria needs to be seasonally acted. But on this occasion it is more than just the New Year which has been the scene of the sudden outbreak of optimism, which even extends to a solemn assurance with the authority of the BBC News that we have "made the corner". Interest is now thought to have peaked and to face a downward slope.

The International Monetary Fund has approved, to the extent of its facilities, support for the Government's "safety" strategy. A "safety" has been suspended under pound; and the Government committed themselves to the official sterling within a defined period. Trade figures for December were much better than generally expected; and in consequence current account deficit on the use of payments in 1976 ended at only just over 10m, rather than at close to 20m as seemed likely a few days ago.

The pound itself has been maintaining its solid recovery from brink of disaster at the end of October. Government spending has been reined back so often, for the first time since the year to the next. And the use of the IMF credit implies a constraint on the ability of Government or their successors to cast care to the winds. The first sign of a swallow, the regrettable comments by the Governor of the Bank of England on Monday emphasizing "flexibility" of these bonds, is, however, all short-stuff. It should not be often that rats in enclosed spaces without any discernible movement in their position, real question is which era has been turned. There at least three.

It is the immediate corner of strength in money markets. This has been turned, though it should be added that as only the palpable laxness

of the Chancellor's 1976 Budget deficit, aggravated by the still unexplained torpor which overtook those in the Bank of England who should have been selling gilt-edged securities last August, which put us on the wrong side of that corner in the first place.

It is at least a necessary condition of any more enduring progress that the authorities should have the money supply under effective control, to which end it is certainly helpful that public expenditure should be thought to be under better control, albeit at too high an absolute level, and that interest rates should be thought likely to decline during the months ahead. It is further helpful that the pound should be thought to be better protected than before from the supposed threat of irrational movements of short-term funds, and that a steady improvement in the balance of payments should be generally taken for granted.

None of this means, however, that Britain has rounded any of the more prominent capes which bar her passage to calmer waters. In particular there are two; and it is arguable that they lie in opposed directions, that to round one would be to move farther down wind of the other.

There is the corner of the conventional four-year cycle of expansion and recession, the dividing line between falling and rising unemployment. A year ago it seemed for a while that we might be beginning to round that corner. In the event the weakness of world trade and the strength of personal savings have falsified that expectation; and now there is no credible prospect of output rising faster in 1977 than productive potential.

The recession is likely to get deeper in 1977 and probably again in 1978, if present policies are maintained and world trade does not outperform even the more optimistic forecasts. It is for precisely this reason that it is possible to begin to take a more positive view of the prospects of rounding the other cape, the third corner. That is the division between the dismal experience of accelerating inflation and rising average levels of unemployment and the benign

currents that lead through stability to a maintainable prosperity.

The great menace looming over the economy and indeed perhaps over the stability of Britain's political institutions has been the threat of deflation, the danger that, following the pattern of every previous postwar economic cycle acted out in the sincere spirit of Keynesian full-employment economics, the Government would be driven to stoke up the next, and probably fatal, boom for the sake of some short-term alleviation of the trend of unemployment.

This has not happened, partly through the fortitude of the Chancellor, for all his aggravating *bêtises*, in resisting crude fiscal and monetary expansionism of the Maudling-Barber type and partly through the good fortune that Mr Healey preferred to put his faith in an export boom which never materialized. In consequence we have so far been spared, for eighteen months beyond the normal cyclical timing, the kind of boom which merely boosts the long-term trend of inflation after a brief and soon reversed dip in unemployment.

The acid question remains whether the Government, any government, can go on indefinitely resisting the political pressure to move in this direction, even though it may take years before the effects of endemic recession on pay determination and work practices eventually begin to bring unemployment down. Here it is the prospects for pay restraint which become decisive.

The incomes policy has eroded differentials, damaged incentives and led to countless anomalies; it will not be possible to continue it in its present form, but if there is a pay explosion this autumn—and the political and economic analogies with 1969 are powerfully suggestive—then unemployment will begin to rise sharply with the sharp rise in costs and prices, as they did in 1970-71. That will put pressure on the Government to neutralize the effects by printing money. It is open to question whether the political fabric could withstand either development without permanent damage.

INDIA'S ELECTIONS ARE WELCOME

Gandhi's return to any of his state of emergency India has always been that she should be a believer in parliamentary democracy and that her ponement of elections was temporary. The course of emergency and the manner which its edicts have been tied to Indian society, tested that Mrs Gandhi truly believed what she said, that in so far as she believed—and constantly meditated—that her choices were made for the good of India, was capable of deceiving herself about the real nature of rule. The fault may persist, a welcome should be given to the less to yesterday's unbecoming that elections will be held in March.

The election may do little to affirm the power of the "rule" — to borrow a phrase — Mrs Gandhi's left-wing oric. It will be a long time before elections in India can do what it will do to give the government a standing it has plainly lacked since emergency was declared. It can be little doubt that the press will be returned. What is informative is to learn the claims made for the use of the emergency among masses—peasants feeling that old burdens have been lifted from them, or urban money-users wishing a stable currency, an

and to inflation and stable prices—are reflected in the majority. That should be enormous if the claims are true.

Rather more doubts hang over the promise also made in Mrs Gandhi's broadcast that the elections will be accompanied by a relaxation of the emergency. The details of this relaxation are awaited, though something was implied by Mrs Gandhi's appeal for political parties to eschew violence while putting all points of view. She believed that the health of the country, deemed to be so sick when the emergency was found to be necessary, was being nursed back to normal. The hospital analogy may seem somewhat disturbing. The nurse's goodwill, behind which stands the doctor's firm and sole judgment, is not one that truly reflects the character of political freedom.

Certainly measures to free the Indian press from this fussy, desperately unimaginative, bureaucratic censorship will be watched with interest. (Outgoing messages from foreign correspondents were removed some time ago from censorship.) One recent example was the political unease in Congress over Mr Sanjay Gandhi's constant and outspoken criticism of the pro-Moscow Communist Party of India, until recently an active partner in Mrs Gandhi's Government. While the allegiance still survives in name—anything else

would be embarrassing with a government so well-disposed towards the Soviet Union—leaving members of Congress have been protesting at Mr Sanjay Gandhi's action. They resent his anti-communist and right-wing attitudes, coupled with the political power he has acquired as leader of the Congress youth. Such conflicts are not surprising; they are inherent in political life. But nothing of this could appear in the Indian press. The censors banned it completely. If India's political debate is to have any life at all this is the sort of dampener that will have to go.

Her tone implies that Mrs Gandhi does not want to lose her grip on the country. It is in political life that a willingness to trust people must be revived. There could be far too strong an impulse to admit only the approved. This was illustrated by the opposition parties' readiness to disown violence and their desire two months ago for a dialogue as a body with Mrs Gandhi. This was unacceptable, not for those political parties which Mrs Gandhi sees as reflections of Congress—Communists and Socialists on the left and others on the right—but because the Hindu-rooted Jan Sangh was joined with them. Like it or not, the Jan Sangh has a larger mass base in northern India than any other of the opposition parties. How timid will Mrs Gandhi's relaxation be?

Light of jury trial

Mr Victor Lissack

For some time now, I have the correspondence and editorial correspondence in relation to the proposed Criminal Law Bill and I am compelled, as one of those who is privileged to sign the James report, to write to you at this time.

Among the various letters that appeared so far, one would be that by going for trial there is automatic passport to acquittal. One might be allowed to say that only recently cases have been reported of a police officer, a county councillor and a magistrate, all of whom were used in separate cases of shoplifting in different parts of the country who were convicted in spite of exercising their previous "rights".

What really is the objection to suggestion as put forward in James Report? Presumably all would agree that if property is stolen, any offender, be he a cop or a barrow-boy, should be tried. It is, however, true that to acquit from time to time minor cases, but this decision often nothing to do with the case, but is arrived at either by sympathy or a sense of treason at having to bear such a trial, particularly if the trial is something of a serious nature.

Those who talk with such passion the narrow-minded and middle-class magistrate who always comes, also talk in glowing terms of clear-sighted and unbiased juries. What they really mean is let us keep available for all

a system of trial where the result often has little to do with the evidence.

It is disturbing to read Mr Wallace's letter (January 14). By extracting suitable quotes from our Report, to suit his argument, he has made all sorts of suggestions which are not relevant to this subject. The underlying reasons for the recommendations, basically, are to see the right case in the right court, bearing in mind modern society, to try and counteract the increasing backlog of cases at the Crown Court and to modernize the system following a lengthy examination of all aspects of it.

The right of election is only touched upon very slightly by our Report, changes of any sort always brings with it criticism. One only has to think back to the introduction of the breathalyzer law and the changes in mind modern society, to try and counteract the increasing backlog of cases at the Crown Court and to modernize the system following a lengthy examination of all aspects of it.

Only one reader so far has drawn attention to the fact that anybody dealt with by magistrates has an automatic right of appeal before a judge of the Crown Court sitting with magistrates, where a complete re-hearing takes place. This right does not exist where a person uses the cherished right of election and is convicted by a jury at the Crown Court. In that event, only will an appeal be successful if it can be shown to the Court of Appeal that the trial judge's summing up contained some basic error, or alternatively that the verdict is unsafe or unsatisfactory.

No one would pretend that perfection exists in magistrates' courts, and indeed Chapter 7 of the Report contains a number of recommendations to make summary trial more

attractive, but perhaps if magistrates were given a diet that contained other ingredients than Section 1 committals or contested motoring cases, it would be demonstrated that they are just as capable of arriving at the "right" decision as juries are alleged to do.

Let us remember what Disraeli said, "Justice is truth in action". Yours faithfully, VICTOR J. LISSACK, 8 Bow Street, Covent Garden, WC2. January 14.

Death of Gary Gilmore

From Mr Hugh Klare

Sir, The execution of Gary Gilmore and the circumstances that surrounded it will have filled many with revulsion. Here was a man who had lived, hated himself and hated others. He may have wanted to atone for killing. But, typically, he could only conceive of doing so by bringing about his own destruction. Twice he tried to kill himself but was forced to live on only to be executed in the name of a society which, by the avoidance of this sad affair, could not do other than degrade itself.

World is not have been greatly preferable, in this exceptional case, not to have prevented Gilmore's suicide and so have permitted all concerned to retain a measure of dignity? Yours truly, HUGH J. KLAKE, 28 Fiveways Court, Albert Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. January 17.

Release by France of Abu Daoud

From Mr Alistair Horne

Sir, Mr Bloch (January 14) is absolutely right in deploring the French release of Abu Daoud as a grave defeat in the war against international terrorism. But your leader, headed "A Cowardly Decision", seems to smack rather too much of what the French condemn—and not always without reason—as "British hypocrisy". I should have thought it difficult to pass such a high-toned moral judgment without being assured that others would have acted less reprehensibly in a similar situation.

Though they might perhaps have made a more prolonged show of "deliberation", but would the honestly believe that, in the long run, any other contemporary government of Western Europe would have acted differently? The only effective way of dealing with Abu Daoud would have been to hand him over to Israeli justice; but would the present British Government (hardly distinguished for its civic courage in other spheres) have taken such a responsibility upon itself? I very much doubt it. One has only to recall the alacrity with which the Heath Government found a "legal formula" for stuffing off Leila Khaled, one of the pioneers of Palestinian terrorism.

Purely on the track record of their previous handling of terrorists would any Central or Federal Government have risked either sentencing Abu Daoud, or passing him on to Israel? Equally I doubt it. West Germany has been notoriously "soft" on terrorism in the past (described, I think, as the "softest" of soft countries), but she realises that any suggestion of excess authoritarianism now might only provoke on British television yet more odious reminiscences of a harsher German past.

If the Abu Daoud case proves anything, it is that there is no such thing as a watertight international agreement on terrorism, and if the about-to-be-ratified European Convention is going to mean anything at all, it will require a great deal more teeth put in it. It is no good just taking a boiler-plate line against terrorism in the French Government; it may not have acted brilliantly (though this does not amount to "cowardice") but at least it acted with a certain realism.

Yours, etc, ALISTAIR HORNE, Membury House, Ramsbury, Wiltshire. January 16.

Atomic waste plant

From Mr Walter Patterson

Sir, Friends of the Earth would agree emphatically that "Waste, Belfry and Such" (January 8) involve considerations of national, and indeed international, importance, calling for a major policy hearing. It might then, for instance, be possible to ascertain from British Nuclear Fuels Ltd the basis for their allegations that delay in approving an oxide reprocessing plant at Windscale will cost BNFL overseas contracts. BNFL and the French firm of Cogema are partners in United Reprocessors, a joint marketing organization formed in 1971, which also includes the West German firm of KEWA. When in 1976 Cogema took an interest in the Japanese contract—still, by the way, unsigned, despite frequent reports to the contrary—they did so not as a competitor but as BNFL's partner. Did BNFL have any choice but to split the contract between two partners? If so, they would have been obliged to do so whenever their partner wished to participate. The same would presumably apply to KEWA—except that KEWA do not have a reprocessing plant, or any clear prospect of securing one. To claim that BNFL will lose overseas contracts requires that they identify a competitor for the business. No such competitor exists. No one except United Reprocessors wishes to become involved in an undertaking with such doubtful prospects. On the contrary, those who would, like Allied General and Nuclear Fuel Services in the US, want out, as quickly as possible. A major policy hearing might help to establish why BNFL think otherwise.

Yours sincerely, WALTER PATTERSON, Friends of the Earth Ltd, 9 Poland Street, W1.

The idea of Europe

From Mr Ronald Harwood

Sir, In his speech yesterday (13) to the European Parliament, Mr Roy Jenkins, not for the first time, said that the idea of Europe must be grafted into the lives of its people. He did not say how. When he delivers his more detailed policy statement to the Parliament in February, the Commission intends in this regard, though one does not hold out much hope for anything but political solutions to what is essentially a cultural problem.

Europe wears a harsh materialist face at present. The Commission concerns itself hardly at all with the artistic life of its member states yet, historically, it is through the arts that ideas have been passed to the consciousness of people. If the Commission truly desires to seek ways in which the European ideal may become a reality, perhaps it should now consider creating a European Arts' Council that will encourage a continuous exchange of artistic activity between the member nations.

The late Sir Peter Daubeny's World Theatre Season serves as a model of what can be achieved in the theatre: opera, music and ballet could be similarly organized. Major exhibitions of painting and sculpture could be designed to travel from one country to another; the subsidizing of translations of literature, especially contemporary literature, should be given high priority. All this would, I believe, do more to make the idea of Europe a reality than the constant repetition by politicians that this is their desired goal.

Yours faithfully, RONALD HARWOOD, Berrygrove House, West Liss, Hampshire.

Censorship by industrial action

From Mr David Astor

Sir, In reporting my account of some well known but seldom publicized Fleet Street practices, *The Times* accepted loss of a few thousand pounds and the strains of an industrial dispute. The loss was most unusual in fact, I think it was almost unprecedented. I never dared go that far myself, as an editor. And few other newspapers, reviews, or television programmes have come within miles of touching on these taboo subjects.

However, as no single article is likely to change the habits of an industry and as *The Times* cannot be expected to go on getting itself closed down, how is news of the "censorship" industry to reach the public? I don't want to say anything to discourage newspapers from doing their best to be truthful about their affairs, but my own belief is that the best hope is that the BBC should develop a new kind of specialist: a media correspondent. He or she should actively investigate Fleet Street and all its trade associations and trade unions, not wait for these silent bodies to offer to explain themselves.

Anyone doing this job would need much probity and courage, including a willingness to be unpopular both with potential employers and with fellow journalists. What would be useless would be another exercise like *What the Papers Say*, which implies that everything in the press is a racket, without mentioning those rackets which hit back. That exercise is merely one of the media trying to discredit another, through jungle warfare conducted by Maoist guerrillas. Something much more formidable would be needed in order to achieve anything like a worthwhile wage. Add to this the fact that we work Sundays and bank holiday nights throughout the year and forgo many social occasions in the process.

One final word on the subject of censorship. I would be quite happy for an editor to print whatever he likes and assist him to print it uncensored. Providing of course that the same position in the newspaper was allocated upon the following day's issue for an uncensored reply.

Yours, etc, DAVID ASTOR, 9 Cavendish Avenue, NW3. January 17.

From Mr J. H. Moseley

Sir, As a member of Natsopa machine room staff employed on the printing of *The Times*, I would like to answer Mr David Astor in the article which appeared in the newspaper on Friday January 14.

His statement that the printing unions have increased the economic burdens on newspapers by insisting on unreasonably high Manning levels and rates of pay, is so obviously untrue that I think the real facts of the matter ought to be presented to your readers. Far from being the villains of the piece, I would remind him that when his own newspaper, *The Observer*, was on the brink of financial extinction, it was the staff of the machine room (among others) who eventually agreed to considerable staffing reductions in order that the paper would survive.

Many of these had long service with that particular newspaper and were given nominal redundancy payments, which they agreed to accept in two six-monthly instalments. This, by the way, was the second such reduction within a short period.

As a result of this "non-cooperation" *The Observer* was given a new lease of life, and the discarded employees were forced to seek work elsewhere. Of all persons least qualified to malign working printers, I would therefore presume it to be Mr Astor himself.

Another of the allegations is that production is sometimes delayed by members of chapel holders' meetings during the press run, but he conveniently omits to add that these meetings are sometimes provoked by some arbitrary decision on the part of management itself.

He alleges sabotage on the part of machine room employees by devices of the press and other adds in the same breath that "as such acts can never be proved, it release which was withdrawn and if that had gone out we would have sued. . . . That was withdrawn and a new press release was put out. . . ."

It was written up in *The Times* and in the *Daily Mail*. Was Lord Shawcross aware that this had happened, and if he was aware of it is it not disgraceful that the *Daily Mail* has the power to change, under threat of a Press Council press release in order to make it more favourable to that newspaper? Yours, etc, MAUREEN COLQUHOUN, House of Commons. January 8.

From Mr Paul Sieghart

Sir, On other occasions when Lord Shawcross has written to you as Chairman of the Press Council, his letters have been admirably clear. That I fail to understand his last one (January 17), must therefore be my fault. Might I ask him, through you, to relieve my confusion?

(1) What "redress" is it to some one whose privacy has been infringed to be told, in public and after the event, that the Press Council agreed with him?

(2) Am I quite wrong in seeming to remember that not all that many years ago, the editor of a national newspaper announced that he would publish someone's memoirs, the Press Council announced that this would constitute an indefensible infringement of his code, the editor published them notwithstanding, and his newspaper continues to thrive?

Devising laws which would protect privacy without fettering the press as an essential guardian of our freedom of speech and opinion is admittedly difficult, though I for one believe that it is not impossible given some effort and common sense. But Lord Shawcross has not yet persuaded me that the Press Council's present powers are enough to make the continued search for such a law unnecessary.

Yours, etc, PAUL SIEGHART, 6 Gray's Inn Square, WC1. January 18.

Is virginity now in fashion?

From Mr Jon Wynne-Tyson

Sir, While holding no brief for some aspects of Barbara Cartland's gruesome picture of ideal men and women, I suspect that the bulk of Western males still prefer, however illogically and unworthily, to marry "pure" women. It may be unfair of them, but they do.

And is it surprising? There is something singularly unattractive about the male-appealing, aggressive and licentious women who so often claim to represent the liberated condition. Nor are the academic Mrs who have written so passionately very representative.

A probably large majority of women, disinterested pornography, seek a man's love (however shallow) if not his idyllic, and are adversely affected by emulating his promiscuity. Although they may not receive quite the adoration, worship and cosseting that Miss Cartland feels is their right, they may be fair enough to admit that the average unliberated man, at the end of a typical day in the rat race, has not quite enough energy to live up to her over-the-hill vision of the adoring husband-lover.

Nevertheless, if women could aim at being more feminine, in the best sense of that word, and less masculine, in the worst, their status and influence would rock. Miss Cartland's reasoning is not all such irrational drivel as Ms Bishop surrenders.

However uniliterary her novels may be, Miss Cartland has her dainty feet planted firmly on the ground and knows a lot more about what most men and women seek in a relationship than do most liberated belleficients. The fact that her books sell like hot cakes, for all that their thing is a sickly, melting purple.

Yours sincerely, JON WYNNE-TYSON, Paddock, Farnwell, Avebury, West Sussex. January 16.

From Miss Rosalind Stewart

Sir, I feel that Patricia Bishop (Letters, January 15), in lamenting the "appalling lack of discrimination among contemporary readers", is taking Miss Cartland's hammy pap too seriously. People, while reading her novels, may have fantasies of being "loved, adored, worshipped, cosseted and protected" but would not wish for it in real life. Would Agatha Christie fans really want to find bodies in their libraries? Yours faithfully, ROSALIND STEWART, 16 Ferncroft Avenue, NW3. January 15.

Subsidized phone calls

From Mr Richard Wood, MP for Bridlington (Conservative)

Sir, When I paid my telephone bill recently, I found that the calls I had made cost me more than double the normal rate for a public telephone box. I no doubt ought to pay for the extra convenience of telephoning in comfort; but I assume that this is covered by the rental of my telephone. Beyond the rental, I pay one penny more for each "unit" than I should be charged in a call box; and, finally, VAT on the total. I clean and maintain my own telephone and the area surrounding it; and, hopefully, do not have to protect it against vandals.

In reply to my comments on this, the Post Office tells me that "our customers generally pay charges that contain an element to enable us to continue to provide this service (call boxes) to the community at large".

Whenever I press for easier terms on behalf of the old, poor, disabled or otherwise housebound in my constituency, the Post Office tells me (no doubt, rightly) that it is not operating a social service. I still find it difficult to understand, in these circumstances, why call box users should be indiscriminately subsidized, while many others with greater needs have to pay the economic rate. Yours faithfully, RICHARD WOOD, House of Commons. January 15.

Sleeper reservations

From Mr Sheridan Morley

Sir, Complaints about British Rail, though not exactly infrequent in your columns, are inclined to be repetitive and largely concerned with money or punctuality. I think I may have discovered an altogether new area of railway misery: sleeper reservations.

Wishing to travel to Liverpool one afternoon, I found an engagement there that evening and be back in London early the next morning. I presented myself at a large Euston desk, marked "Sleeper Reservations".

"I would like to book and buy a sleeper ticket from Liverpool for one night next week."

"No."

"You mean you're full that night?"

"Not necessarily."

"You mean there's no sleeper from Liverpool?"

"Yes, there is a sleeper. No, you can't book a berth on it."

"Why not?"

"Because we have no allocation from Liverpool sleeper reservations to Liverpool, yes; from Liverpool, no."

"So what do I do?"

"You book it at Liverpool."

"But I can't be there until the afternoon before the night I want to travel back. Will they still have vacancies by then?"

"Quite possibly not."

"So what should I do?"

"Come back the next day instead."

Inefficiency is one thing; but a mind that can work out *Catch-22* situations of this geographic complexity must surely have a future somewhere more exciting than a railway booking office. Government, maybe? Yours sincerely, SHERIDAN MORLEY, Punch, 23-27 Tudor Street, EC4, January 14.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

NCR
Computers & Terminals
NCR Limited, 206 Marylebone Road, London NW1

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e melting
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Industrial output sumes slow limb back after the doldrums

By Westlake

Industrial output may have resumed its slow upward movement after a stagnating summer. At least some industrial output showed distinct signs of improvement during the autumn, according to the latest figures, published by the Statistical Office yesterday.

Industrial production, which was down 4.5 per cent in the summer, is now shown to have risen 1.6 per cent during the nine months September-October, compared with the 0.3 per cent rise in the same period last year.

However, because of the behaviour of output in the early summer, statisticians are interpreting the figures with caution. In particular, the comparison of the periods June and September-November overstates the increase in the autumn because of the exceptional drop in output which occurred in the result of the spring flood.

Although the output figures are not as accurate as those of the early summer, the on balance remains in the red. In addition, the Euro-impact, the hot summer and an exceptional drop in output in August have significantly reduced industrial activity in the middle months of the year.

But, apart from such seasonal observations, the on balance of output last year, which was experienced as not being satisfactory at all, even allowing for these factors, still points to some improvement in the later part of 1976. Notably, the textile industry was working at a higher level of capacity, the increase in production in the North Sea oil sector, and the broad upturn in the textile industry was sharing in the move towards profitability from purging of clothing by foreign buyers and buoyant sales. There are signs of a revival in orders for the

Healey call for more industrial initiative

Mr Healey called for more industrial initiative in his Budget speech, saying that the Government was determined to do all it could to help the industrial sector.

But to seize the opportunities which this provided it was necessary for management to show that they could use the resources available more efficiently than in the past. Mr Healey quotes several recent reports showing that the use of machinery is less efficient in the United Kingdom than in other countries, and argued that there was nothing inevitable about this.

Raising the average level of performance of British industry closer to the standard of the best, was the central theme of the industrial strategy. He detailed action to help industries deal with their problems and pressed for more attention to non-price elements in selling abroad, such as delivery dates and the sensible use of foreign currency billing.

He also pleaded for new investment when capacity problems were identified.

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INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

The following are the index numbers of industrial production in November, seasonally adjusted, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday (1970=100):

	All Industries	Manufacturing
1974 Q1	104.4	106.5
Q2	107.6	108.2
Q3	107.9	108.8
Q4	104.7	105.6
1975 Q1	104.7	106.1
Q2	100.3	100.5
Q3	98.6	99.7
Q4	100.4	100.4
1976 Q1	102.0	102.0
Q2	102.4	103.4
Q3	101.3	103.2
1976 September	100.0	100.1
October	100.6	100.7
November	100.8	100.9
December	99.8	99.5
1976 January	101.4	101.8
February	102.5	102.2
March	102.1	102.0
April	102.3	103.1
May	104.4	106.2
June	104.4	101.0
July	101.3	103.5
August	100.5	102.3
September	102.1	103.9
October	102.5	104.3
November	102.6	103.8

* revised

engineering industry, although this has not been reflected in higher deliveries of goods. But even if the latest figures do indicate a resumption of the cyclical upswing, it is clear now that the deepest industrial recession since the war is being followed by the slowest recovery.

The Treasury is now expecting that manufacturing output will grow by about 5.3 per cent between the second half of 1976 and the second half of 1977, although if foreign demand proved to be stronger than now predicted, the rise in manufacturing activity could be as much as 7 per cent.

But, even if this kind of growth is achieved, it will still leave output consistently below its peak level at the height of the last boom in the closing months of 1973.

Since then, production has slumped to its lowest level for several years, reaching a trough in the second quarter of 1975, and beginning its long climb back in the final months of that year.

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Sir Harold sets out inquiry task

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke
Financial Editor

Sir Harold Wilson issued a reassurance yesterday that his committee on the functioning of Britain's financial institutions will "not be taking a bloodhound into the City". Speaking after the 18-member committee had met for the first time at the Treasury, he said that the central theme of the inquiry would be an examination of the provision of investment funds for industry and trade.

But the committee would not only look at the machinery for providing such funds in the City, but also at factors which affect demand for investment capital, including taxation.

He added that "late but not low" on the list of priorities for the committee would be the questions of whether there should be an extension of the public sector, and whether there should be greater supervision of the financial system.

The committee had decided, Sir Harold said, to divide into three phases its approach to the very wide subject it had to inquire into. The first would be the role and functioning of British financial institutions, second would be the provision of investment funds, and third would be questions as to whether it would be advantageous to nationalise banks and insurance companies.

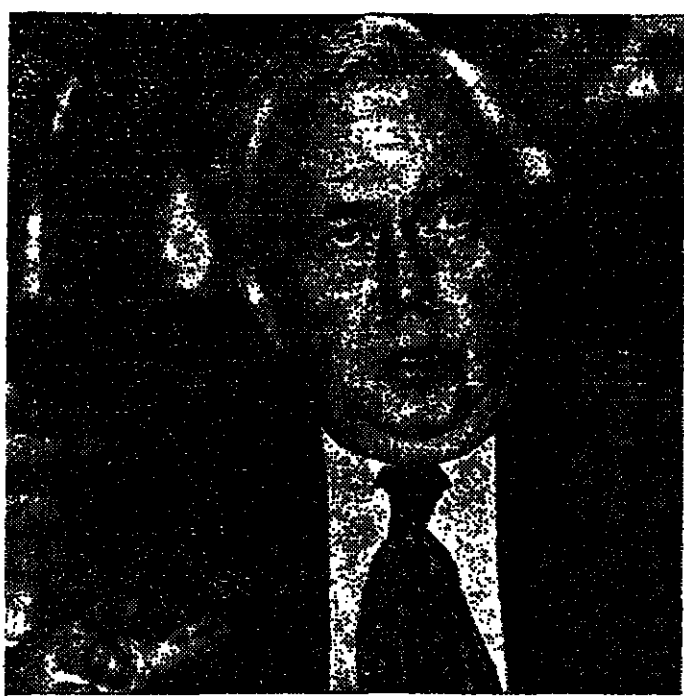
Meanwhile, responding to widespread criticism when the names of the committee members were announced earlier this month that there was no securities market specialist among the team, Sir Harold disclosed that Mr David Bruce of Cazenove, a leading City stockbroker, had been appointed as a consultant to the committee.

Professor P. G. Moore, deputy principal of the London Business School, has also been appointed as a consultant, and it is clear, too, that the committee will not hesitate to use consultancy advice from outside experts when necessary.

As a first step, the committee will review the changes that have occurred since the last important inquiry into the financial system—by the Radcliffe Committee—nearly 20 years ago. It will be necessary to see what statistics are available and what extra statistical evidence is needed.

Sir Harold said his committee would need to assess how the arguments, conclusions and diagnosis of Radcliffe have been affected by major changes in the economy.

Specifically, he cited changes in the pattern of demand for investment capital, the disappearance of the sterling area, the fact that sterling now floats



"I will not be taking a bloodhound into the City"

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and living with higher interest rates than the "big shock" 7 per cent mentioned by Radcliffe.

Additionally, Sir Harold said the committee would commission "an authoritative study" of the property market from 1971, through the period of collapse until today. It was necessary to see how this "distortion" occurred, he said, and what the consequences and what they still are. Treasury and Bank of England officials will help the committee in this study.

On the question of how evidence will be gathered, Sir

Harold stressed that the inquiry would be conducted on an informal basis. It had been suggested by some, he said, that there should have been a Royal Commission, but he had personally rejected this idea. He wanted committee members to be able to go into the City to "root out" their own evidence and ideas, and felt confident that people would be "almost falling over themselves" to provide the committee with information.

But he gave a warning that if for any reason there was "some sort of strike", or evidence was "wildly withheld", then he would go back to 10 Downing Street for powers to call for evidence.

It has also been decided that the public will be invited to give evidence, though as a first step representative bodies such as the Confederation of British Industry and the Accepting Houses Committee, would be invited to submit views.

So, too, would individual undertakings and firms in the City and industry including multi-nationals. Small businesses will be expected to give evidence, and the committee will send teams to overseas financial centres to assess alternative financial structures and foreign financial institutions.

Hearings of the committee will normally be in private, but there will be occasions when evidence, perhaps "suitably sanitized" can be published. Certainly, the committee intends that evidence should be published before the committee submitted its report to the Prime Minister.

Sir Harold would not be drawn on how long the inquiry would take, though he noted that Radcliffe had taken about two years, but also that the remit of the present committee was much wider than that of Radcliffe's brief was to study the monetary system.

Sir Harold pointed out that reports of this kind were only undertaken once in every generation—the Macmillan report in the 1930s preceded Radcliffe.

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Government drops plan for state licensing in insurance

By John Brennan

Plans to introduce a State Licensing system to regulate the insurance broking industry, have been abandoned by the Government. In a consultative paper published yesterday the Department of Trade proposes tighter, but self-regulated controls for the 9,000 brokers who handle around half the domestic business of the £4,500m British insurance market.

The consultative paper on Insurance Intermediaries backs in principle the case put forward last November by the British Insurance Brokers' Confederation (BIBC) for a system under which only brokers registered with the BIBC would be entitled to call themselves "insurance brokers".

The paper also discusses the possibility of controls under which insurance policies would eventually be sold only by registered brokers, insurance companies, and insurance agents. "It would" the paper suggests, eventually "be an offence for any other category of person to be engaged for pecuniary gain in the selling of insurance".

This framework would, the Government believes, "strike a reasonable balance between the interests of insurers in maximizing their sales outlets and of customers in knowing the intermediaries they deal with are experienced and dependable people".

This paper is, the DoT says, "tentative and intended to provide a basis for public discussion" on the causes of "current concern" in the insurance industry. Comments on the proposals are invited by the end of March, 1977.

In the meantime, the Government "has noted with interest" the private member's Bill on insurance broking to be presented in the Commons shortly by Mr John Page, Conservative MP for Harrow West.

Mr Page, who drew first place in the ballot for private members' Bills last year, is expected to publish a Bill "to provide for the registration of insurance brokers and for the regulation of their professional standards" later this week.

The Government is in principle willing to support a Bill for this purpose, so long as it provides that the use of the title "insurance broker" would be reserved to registered brokers (whether registered under the BIBC or any other approved scheme).

Mr Page, whose Bill is to have its second reading on January 28 said last night that the White Paper and his Bill appeared to be "walking arm in arm along the same road".

The Government's support for the Bill is conditional upon public consultation on proposals in the White Paper and Mr Page said that comments on measures could most effectively be made by contact with the DoT and with him so that when his Bill reached the committee stage early next month criticisms and alternative ideas on regulation could be incorporated as amendments.

Mr Page's Bill which, he has said "will affect the insurance world nationally and internationally" "look after the interests of the small as well as the large brokers".

The BIBC yesterday welcomed the Government's proposals and its support for the principles of Mr Page's Bill. The British Insurance Association, representing the leading insurance companies, are still considering the White Paper but have welcomed the Government's acceptance of self-regulation.

Both have reservations, however, about the effects of the proposals on insurance agents under which they would be "at all times the responsibility of the company for which they act".

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£164m expansion plan by Allied Breweries

By Ronald Emiler

Allied Breweries, the largest drinks group in Britain, yesterday announced a major investment programme of at least £164m over the next two years with more likely to follow. Expenditure of £17m has already been authorized and Mr Keith Showering, the chairman, said he expected that some £85m would be spent this calendar year. The group's plans involve expenditure at all major locations and will "create hundreds of new jobs".

Last night Mr Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, by far the largest in the brewing industry, said: "This is the sort of good news we have been looking for. I hope very much that other companies will follow this splendid example and if that happens British industry will soon be on the way to a major recovery."

Mr Showering said the group had held back expansion plans over the past three years but now considered the time ripe for capital investment.

While investment will be made in depots and distribution as well as new pubs and refurbishing of existing tied houses, much of the investment will be concentrated on existing breweries, especially those at Burton, Wrexham and Alloa.

The group's production of its Skol lager is undertaken at these plants and Mr Showering said yesterday that because of the rapid shift in public taste towards lager the industry's product mix was changing. It is estimated that Allied has some 17 per cent of the lager market.

Dearest beer: Bass Charrington announced yesterday it will increase the price of bottled and canned beers later this month, but will hold draught prices "for as long as possible".

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Suspension of mining share deals

Stockbroking communities in London and Johannesburg were surprised and puzzled yesterday by the suspension of dealings in shares of the South Africa companies, Anglo American Corporation and Rand Selection.

The suspensions, made at the request of the companies, led to a variety of opinions that some form of takeover of Rand Selection by Anglo American or a tidying up of their various interests and cross-holdings was imminent.

They came after Rand Selection's shares had jumped 30p to 445p on Monday on top of a 40p gain last week, whereas Anglo's shares had not shown any advance last week, and lost 3p on Monday. Anglo's spokesman in Johannesburg said a statement might be made today.

Anglo's last annual report showed it as owning 17 per cent of Rand Selection, although this figure increased last year.

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BP investing £17.3m in Canadian coal

By Desmond Quigley

British Petroleum, which has been purchasing a "significant" amount of coal, is paying \$30m (about £17,300,000) to buy into several coal interests in British Columbia.

The deal has been signed, BP will have coal interests in three countries—Australia, Canada and South Africa—in line with the group's philosophy of entering the coal business.

BP is proposing to buy Bramea Resources' 87.4 per cent interest in the Sunkunka coal licences in north-eastern British Columbia. It is also to buy from Teck Corporation and Bramea, in which Teck has a 47 per cent interest, 20 of their 25 jointly held Balmouse and Chamberlain coal licences in the same area.

Teck and Bramea will, however, retain the rights to the coal in the Gates Coal Measures on the Balmouse

property where the coal seams are nearest to the surface.

Of the total purchase price, \$25m is payable on completion of the deal and the remainder is payable on completion of the rail and port facilities capable of handling three million tons a year.

Like other international oil companies, BP has been moving into coal to expand its energy base.

Last September BP announced its most ambitious coal deal by buying half of the New South Wales, Australia, coal mining operations of Clutha Developments, and associated companies, for about £116m.

As part of a further diversification, the group last month set up a minerals department to initiate and develop projects in the base metals field and subsequently announced that it was joining Rio Tinto-Zinc in an international consortium developing methods of deep sea mining.

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Japanese disappoint Mr Crosland

Brussels, Jan 18.—Mr Crosland, Foreign Secretary, voiced the European Community's disappointment today over the absence of any progress in European talks with Japan on removing the imbalance in trade, especially in shipping where the Community is seeking a bigger slice of the world market.

After a meeting of Community foreign ministers Mr Crosland, as president of the Ministerial Council, said recent discussions with the Japanese on trade and shipping showed that "nothing had advanced".

The answers given to the Community by Japanese representatives were "inadequate", he added. "The mood in the council (of this subject) was very strong".

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Chase raises its prime to 6½ pc

From Frank Vogl
Economics Correspondent
Washington, Jan 18

The Chase Manhattan Bank of New York today increased its prime lending rate to 6½ per cent from 6 per cent.

Other major United States banks to have held their prime rates at 6 per cent were First National Bank of Chicago and Morgan Guaranty Trust—both increased their prime lending levels to 6½ per cent yesterday and thus Chase's move today was expected.

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economy 'reaccelerating' and sharp growth rise likely, Mr Greenspan says

Frank Vogl

Washington, Jan 18
America's economy is now reaccelerating and we may see a rather sharp rise in the real gross product rate in the quarter—double or more than the 3 per cent in the last quarter," according to Mr Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Council on Economic Advisers.

Mr Greenspan said in his report today that real GDP will rise 5.4 per cent in 1976, 1977 and 1978, and Mr Greenspan indicated that this was a conservative estimate.

Primary data for all of 1976 issued today by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, showed the gross national product in constant dollars rose 11.6 per cent to \$90,000m (nearly \$90,000m) in the last quarter, a successive quarter of growth of 9.2 per cent in the last three months, and extremely weak performance of the economy in the last quarter was largely because of the car industry strike and a substantial fall in business inventories. However, real final sales moved ahead sharply and Mr Greenspan now believes that a rapid upswing will be seen in both inventory and fixed capital investments.

Real GNP for all leading industrial countries (member nations of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) is likely to rise 4.5 per cent this year, after a gain of roughly 5 per cent in 1976, the council's annual report says. World trade growth in 1977 is predicted to be around 9.4 per cent, compared with 10 to 11 per cent last year.

The council is cautiously optimistic about the outlook for the British economy. It notes that "if the recent measures remove some of the uncertainties that have clouded the economic outlook for Britain, and if the forthcoming Budget, as expected, removes some of the tax disincentives to business expansion, the outlook for

growth of economic activity in 1977 and beyond may have improved substantially compared to the trends apparent around mid-1976".

It points out that there has been a dramatic change in how the major G6-producing countries have invested their surpluses. It notes that such investments in the United States have increased from 20 per cent of the total Opec surplus in 1974 to about 30 per cent of the surplus in late 1976. At the same time Opec's placements in Britain are said to have fallen from 12.75 per cent of its total surplus in 1974 to nearly zero in 1975 and for the first three quarters of last year there was a net liquidation of \$1,250m of sterling assets.

The council does not expect the rate of inflation to rise above 5 to 6 per cent this year. It notes that retail food price increases may be limited to 3 per cent, with consumer energy product prices gaining by no more than 6 to 7 per cent and with wage increases moderating slightly to about 7.5 per cent.

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How the markets moved

The Times index: 159.10 + 2.62
The FT index: 381.1 + 6.7

RISES		
Ass Port Cement	5p to 171p	PI
Beecham Grp	8p to 396p	RI
Beit Sugar	20p to 330p	RJ
Cartmells	4p to 103p	RS
ENX	7p to 226p	SA
FMC	13p to 72p	TS
Glaxo	12p to 422p	Tr
Harmony	15p to 270p	U
Hartwells	5p to 46p	UU
Intp Cont Gas	15p to 355p	V

Report sees foreign sales passing 'unacceptable' level Car imports may top 40pc

By Clifford Webb
Midland Industrial Correspondent

Renewed demands for government action to restrict car imports are likely to follow yesterday's publication of a forecast that foreign manufacturers will this year pass the 40 per cent share, which the Government has already said is "not acceptable".

Prospects for the British industry in 1977, produced by the authoritative Economist Intelligence Unit, also predicts that Ford will replace Leyland as market leader by a clear 5 per cent, taking 30 per cent to Leyland's 25.

It expects a further modest increase in the United Kingdom total car market from 1.28 million last year to 1.35 million this year—up 5.5 per cent, with nearly all this extra business being snapped up by importers. British manufacturers are expected to increase their sales by a mere 0.6 per cent, while the importers continue to make inroads with 13.4 per cent more. This would give them nearly 41 per cent penetration compared with 38 last year and a record 46 in December.

The report says the extra business will almost certainly come from "bottled up" demand in company and fleet sales, which account for about 60 per cent of all new cars sold in Britain.

The inference here is that British manufacturers who traditionally dominate this area are now under attack in their strongest sector.

The report gives warning that companies who have long insisted on buying British are now permitting employees to choose any car manufactured in an EEC country.

Although the Japanese are widely identified with the import problem, much of the importers' additional business this year will come from the three American giants—Ford, Vauxhall and Chrysler.

Their British subsidiaries are already significant importers of cars made by their European affiliates and this cross-Channel flow will be further increased if, as the report suggests, all Ford Capris are soon made in Germany.

It believes that the Japanese penetration of 10 per cent is as much as the Government will

permit. A high-level deputation from the Japanese Automobile Manufacturers' Association is expected to confirm voluntary restrictions to achieve this when it arrives in London later this month.

Leyland Cars' output is forecast to rise by 5.6 per cent to 220,000 units—a little over 15,000 cars a week and well short of the 22,000 cars the company is aiming for.

Mini sales are expected to decline following the British launch of the Ford Fiesta next month. On the other hand the Princess, Rover and Jaguar models are expected to do well. An impressive 50 per cent rise in Chrysler production is forecast, compared with 20 per cent for Ford and 13 per cent for Vauxhall. Much of the Chrysler increase will be accounted for by the launch of the company's new small car, the Reliant.

Forecasting a 16 per cent increase in exports, the report says 1977 could be "an excellent year for British exports" with latent demand for certain models in the EEC and North America, and substantially increased shipments to Iran by Chrysler.



Niterol, the Brazilian frigate, fitted with Olympus gas turbine engines which are also incorporated into the Dutch Navy's "S" class frigates.

Fiat voters approve Libyan deal

From John Earle
Turin, Jan 18

An extraordinary meeting of Fiat shareholders here today overwhelmingly approved the deal announced in early December whereby the Italian motor car manufacturer will receive an injection of about 360,000 lire (£240m) from the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank.

Signor Gianni Agnelli, the chairman, said afterwards that he expected it would be possible to call a board meeting to nominate two Libyan directors to a board of a month.

Votes representing only 52 shares out of more than 188 million were cast against a motion for existing shareholders to renounce in favour of the Libyans their option to a capital increase from 150,000 lire to 165,000 lire and to an issue of 90,000 lire worth of convertible bonds. The Libyan Bank will also provide Fiat with a 10-year American dollar loan of \$104m (£66m) bringing its involvement to about 360,000 lire.

In a letter to shareholders he described Fiat's 1976 performance as better although this was largely due to the firm's devaluation, whose effects would in themselves be illusory and in the long term negative. It should be possible, he said, to pay this year a dividend out of profits, not out of reserves.

Motor car output of the Fiat group in Italy (Fiat, Alfasud, Autobianchi, Lancia and Ferrari) was, according to provisional figures, 1,339,000 units in 1976, 158,000 more than in 1975.

Sales were also 3.1 per cent up, including a 9.8 per cent rise in exports from Italy from 561,000 to 617,000. "Nevertheless," Signor Agnelli stated, "we have still not managed to haul the automobile sector off the rocks once and for all."

The Fiat group now employs 328,720 people throughout the world, of whom 187,200 are in Italy. The highlights of its other sectors last year were as follows:

Commercial vehicles (Iveco): A 10 per cent sales increase from 95,416 to 105,000 of which nearly 60,000 was exported from Italy.

Iron and steel (Telsit): The sector was completely restructured, concentrating on special steel, so that it could sell on the open market rather than continuing merely to meet Fiat's internal requirements. Total production was 14 per cent up, at the equivalent of 2,050,000 tonnes.

Agricultural tractors: Sales rose 13 per cent from 70,833 to 80,600 with exports up from 50,740 to 52,600.

Rolls hoping for £18m marine engines order

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Rolls-Royce (1971) is poised to win a marine engine export order for up to £18m of gas turbine engines for the West German Navy which is embarking on a major modernization of its fleet. Within a few weeks the group is expected to learn whether its bid to supply Olympus and Tyne marine gas turbines has been successful.

German naval authorities have carried out over the past year an extensive evaluation of the Rolls-Royce product and that of its rival, the American General Electric, and final decisions are expected shortly. The German Navy is understood to be planning to place orders for at least six frigates, with the strong possibility of a follow-on order of a further six.

Yesterday at The Hague, Rolls-Royce announced that it had secured a £10m order for Olympus and Tyne marine gas turbines for the Royal Netherlands Navy. The Dutch have previously placed orders for the engines for eight earlier vessels in the standard frigate class and the latest package involves construction of four more similar vessels.

Apart from the Dutch, the Belgian and French navies are also operating vessels with Rolls-Royce propulsion units, with West Germany outside this "club".

Rolls executives are guardedly optimistic that the West Germans will decide in favour of its engines. The company has orders for £120m-worth of industrial and marine gas turbines with about 80 per cent of its order book destined for export.

Nigeria, Ecuador and Peru are among a number of countries now planning naval development programmes and Rolls-Royce is hoping to pick up further orders.

Mr Laker criticized expenditure by the National Enterprise Board, which helped companies to install equipment to duplicate existing capacity, particularly in the manufacture of motor components. He was referring to British Leyland's recent move to market automotive electrical components through its SU-Bute subsidiary in competition with Lucas Industries, the market leader.

Mr Laker also took advantage of the Chancellor's presence to urge more flexibility in any phase three wages policy. He said: "A new approach is essential to make possible some restoration of differentials, particularly for middle and senior management."

He told the Chancellor, the guest speaker at the chamber's annual banquet, that many more Midland companies would already have taken advantage of the accelerated projects assistance scheme if the Government had not set such a high starting point.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Taxing treatment for employees living in the UK and working abroad

From Sir Joseph Latham

Sir, Ministers neglect no opportunity to exhort all concerned to increase overseas earnings. Yet the Chancellor of the Exchequer is contemplating changes in taxation of overseas earnings which would operate as a powerful disincentive in many cases.

In 1974 the Government withdrew the concession by which earnings from overseas employment were taxed only on remittances to the United Kingdom and (for absences of less than 95 days) substituted a deduction of 25 per cent from the earnings in computing the liability to United Kingdom tax.

It was generally understood that the deduction was not dependent on the existence of a separate employment covering the duties overseas, but recently the Inland Revenue has ruled otherwise.

On December 15 the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that "he believed it important to find ways of improving the

tax treatment of employees living in this country and working abroad", and that "he had asked the Inland Revenue to issue a consultative paper outlining proposals for such changes" with a view to consultations and legislation in the next Finance Bill.

It is astonishing that under the guise of "improving the tax treatment" the proposals include a provision which restricts the 25 per cent deduction to overseas earnings of someone who works abroad for a continuous period of 30 days or more, and applies this restriction even to cases where there is a separate employment overseas.

The Inland Revenue justifies the restriction on the grounds that a man "who goes abroad for a very short absence does not incur the same extra expense or suffer the same disturbance". Yet surely to make (say) 20 visits overseas totalling 80 days is far more disturbing than a single visit of 30 days.

Moreover, the vital is not that of expense or distance, but the need to real incentives to make overseas earnings and tax credits to promote interests of the United Kingdom in overseas countries. It is proposals which would operate as a disincentive to continual incur the strain and danger of frequent visits.

The Inland Revenue is proposing changes in the rules of reimbursement expenses connected with visits which would disadvantageous to people.

The Government must that priority should be to industry and stresses need for greater overseas links. Is it too much to ask that their actions should be in the interests of the country?

Yours faithfully,
J. LATHAM,
25 Badingham Drive,
Leatherhead, Surrey.

Industry's relations with the schools

From Mrs José A. Petty

Sir, My husband is extremely interested in the young and the many careers of the world of today has to offer them. Opportunities are varied and legion and career paths are many and must at times find it a most difficult task to fit enthusiastic and undecided young people into happy and fulfilling employment.

Our two sons were both educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton, which has an outstanding headmaster and staff. Consequently, many rugged marches, fairs, speech days, etc. have been attended.

We were always impressed by the boys' keenness to know more about business, so my husband arranged business seminars at the school, bringing in a cross-section of businessmen, bankers, etc. and, all important today, officiating members of trade unions.

The proceeding would start in the school hall, dividing the boys drawn from the sixth forms into groups, giving each group the same problem, perhaps a sales or marketing problem; the leader of each group receiving guidelines to help discussion; then a break for lunch, the boys sitting at mixed tables with the results.

After lunch the written results from each group were discussed — which proved extremely interesting. The boys loved the exercise, especially being marked by the visitors, and eventually a winning group would emerge. (Report writing is something new to the young, and cannot be taught too early.)

One can say the young must be tired of hearing about the industrial problems through the

media, etc. but when thrown into an actual "situation" and faced with sound men from industry and trade unions, these seminars brought from the floor lively questions and a deep and searching interest.

Industry is all about ideas; the boys thought the ideas great, and asked for repeats. The men were tremendously impressed by the searching questions and profound thoughts of the young—especially their flair and innovation for modern industrial design.

Early education and encouragement in this area can help matters later on; if occasionally businessmen in towns and cities could spare a little time to go into schools with these projects — both businesses and boys would benefit.

Industrial relations are very big business and, coupled with the thoughts of these young potential industrial innovators, can have no chance to stretch their minds in this area at this stage of their education, we could, as a nation, hold our heads high again in the markets of the world.

Britain could quite easily "live off her brains"—many are strangled or frustrated by bureaucracy, or engaged in wrangling in government.

We must, therefore, channel this lively intelligence in all our schools to the basic fact that it is imperative to manufacture and to sell attractive and sound commodities abroad. This, after all, as island dwellers, is genetically our birthright and must be encouraged.

Yours faithfully,
(MRS) JOSÉ A. PETTY,
Kingswood House,
Buckfastleigh, Devon.

Gas leaks and corporation's charging policy

From Mr R. W. Hill

Sir, Your correspondent, Henry (January 10), raises matter of our charging in dealing with gas leaks. Readers should understand, we make absolutely no charge for calling to investigate or for making safe.

If repair work is necessary on the customer's or on the main meter or on an appliance covered by our guarantee, we make no charge. If we do our best to repair a case sympathetically, we make no charge for the work carried out on the meter or the pipes leading to it; it is owned by us and is our responsibility.

No charge was made for repairs to individual customer's appliances or installation, that would mean the other customers would be paying for the work, including those customers who take to maintain their equipment properly so as to lessen possibility of urgent repairs being necessary.

I would also draw your attention to the Gas Safety Regulations which make it an offence to use gas appliances if a competent person suspects them to be faulty.

Yours faithfully,
R. W. HILL, Service Director,
British Gas Corporation,
Marketing Division,
326 High Holborn,
London WC1.
January 14.

German miracle or a little help from friends?

From Mr G. East

Sir, Mr Stephen Schatt (January 14) is right, but has not enumerated all the miracle-working which many enjoyed in the early war years.

In addition to the access of "millions more hands" to the German economy, half a million paying guests (the form of British, American, French and other forces, their dependants, all bring in and spending badly needed foreign currency. She contributed to the national budget costs of the occupation, being forbidden to have for of her own, she spent a smaller proportion of her national product on this than her "occupiers" spending on defence.

Similarly being forbidden to have an arms industry (all those willing hands) available for consumer goods and exports, at a time when the United Kingdom had annual productive capacity £1,000m tied up in arms manufacture.

Miracle? Or a little help from her friends? Yours faithfully,
GERALD EAST,
Helford Cottage,
43 Manor Road North,
Hitchley Wood, Essex,
Surrey
January 15.

Incentives to manufacture

From Mr T. G. Arthur

Sir, Mr B. E. Cotton (January 12), in pleading for tax relief for "manufacturers", misses a number of fundamental points.

In the first place why must "the country shift its material and human resources into manufacturing industry"? Mr Cotton implies that this would increase exports, close the payments gap, and provide all of us with more resources. Exactly the same argument could be applied to non-manufacturing industry, however.

Secondly, the argument is in any case fallacious. The payments gap is purely a function of exchange rates and some rather arbitrary accounting. Action outside market forces to close it would reduce not increase resources. Imports are the gain from trading, exports are merely a way of paying for them. Importers bringing us shirts or fish at low prices are conserving our resources, and exporters who cannot get rid of their merchandise to show a margin of income over expenses are wasting resources. Let's have some Queen's Awards for imports for a change!

Thirdly, there is nothing which decrees manufactured goods to be more desirable than, say, services. A movement out of manufacturing is a normal feature of a developing economy. The right ratio of manufacturing to services is determined by consumer preferences. I am sure that were the free market allowed to operate there would be more "manufacturing", but while government interference such as tampering with money, high taxation, etc. remains, it is perfectly justifiable to satisfy the resulting consumers' desires even if they are pictures rather than refrigerators.

If "the goods" are wanted, Mr Cotton, they must be paid for by consumers. In the same way as services are. Why should those who prefer meditation (say) have to fork out to provide motor cars? And anyway, what is "manufacturing"? Does it include, for example, publishing, and if not why not?

Finally, let me wish Mr Cotton luck in his quest for relief. Relief on a discriminatory basis is better than none at all, and I would never call taxation a "tax" as Mr Cotton implies. But let us all have it not just those industries who happen to be making goods of certain classifications, which cannot be shown to be any more beneficial than others.

Yours faithfully,
T. G. ARTHUR,
Granfield Book Service,
Whitley End,
Bedford.

Stabilizing the pound's rebound

From Lord Balogh

Sir, The wild gyrations of the pound which we have experienced in the past few months cannot but render any rational economic policy difficult and costly. Industries where the gestation period is long (those producing capital and durable consumer goods) will be especially hit by increasing long-term hedges are not available.

These gyrations were not the reflection of the basic forces governing costs and prices in the main trading countries, the long exploded theory of "purchasing power parities" or the relative rates of inflation, as some ill-advised monetarists have tried to explain. They were the consequence of violent and often irrational alterations of fear and hope.

In the absence of sensible and large scale international arrangements it would have been difficult to resist the downward pressure on the pound. The so-called "safety net" is a valuable step forward but is still insufficient as it covers only official sterling holdings. From this viewpoint the present rebound, however,

can and must be controlled. I hope that the events of the past few days indicate that this policy is accepted.

We suffered from the inflation induced by the rise in import prices. We should now try to keep the pound at a level which is compatible with the present relative cost levels and moderate its variations.

Britain is not alone in the world and therefore it must, in devising its exchange policy and demand management, take into account the vast surpluses of the Arab Opec countries which are once again increasing and might reach \$50,000m in 1977. It is utterly folly to leave the distribution of the consequential deficits of the oil importing countries to alternating and increasingly severe deflationary bouts of beggar-my-neighbour policies.

The safety net for the world, needed to offset the destructive ebb and tide of these balances, must be reckoned in tens of billions of dollars and the close cooperation of the creditor countries to lighten the burden of the debtors. From this viewpoint President-elect Carter's plans

to stimulate the United States economy are a most welcome change from the policies of previous Administration.

Without a change in German attitude, however, they will be sufficient to regain for a non-Soviet world the momentum of steady expansion which was lost in 1974 as a result of the spread of policies based on monetary fallacies.

If the relative stabilization of the pound is carried out at world prospects further to prove, the Government should use the leeway gained to expand the domestic economy. We must not be tempted to think of rise in sterling as a victory nor go for an accumulation of external surpluses.

The first would frustrate export recovery and the second would be ruinous to the world because it would lead to cut in public expenditure and private restrictionism. The importance of these problems has been acknowledged by Prime Minister himself taking charge.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS BALOGH,
Balliol College,
Oxford.

Rubery workers listen to company peace formula

More than two thousand workers employed by Rubery Owen, Darlington, Staffordshire, spent yesterday afternoon in a local cinema at their employers' expense, listening to the agreement reached by senior union officials designed to prevent a recurrence of industrial disputes which have brought the factory to the edge of close-down.

Mr Fred Griffiths, divisional organizer of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, declared that the management felt that some of the trouble was being caused by two systems of piecework which meant the company did not have the financial control it ought to have.

He told the workers "Take this seriously, if the management have managed badly, it is you that ends up out of work". He and Mr Brian Mathers, regional secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union, explained the basis of the agreement worked out with the management at the offices of the West Midlands Engineering Employers Association which the Rubery Owen management has now joined.

No vote was taken at the meeting.

Cammell Laird yard reopens today after strike

Cammell Laird's shipyard at Birkenhead, on Merseyside, will reopen today after a two-week shutdown caused by the strike of 450 members of the Boiler-makers Union, which had stopped work on the construction of 12 ships.

At a meeting yesterday the 450 platers and shipwrights voted to accept a recommendation by Mr John Chalmers, the union's general secretary, to call off their snappage and allow fresh negotiations with the company to start. Later the management announced that another 4,000 workers laid off because of the strike would be recalled today.

The dispute was over an agreement which Cammell Laird tried to negotiate with its boiler-makers in 1975. It wanted to implement flexible working arrangements and a re-training programme, and promised pay allowances of £2 a week if these were accepted.

However, the deal was rejected. The platers and shipwrights walked out on the day that the yard reopened after a ten-day Christmas and New Year holiday shutdown.

Letraset

Interim announcement	Six months ended 31st October 1976	Year ended 30th April 1976	Year ended 30th April 1976
Sales (£000)	13,413	10,185	32%
Profit before tax (£000)	2,870	1,596	80%
Earnings per share (p)	5.84	3.82	53%
Dividend per share (p)	0.816	0.393	2.541

A successful trading period

Profits for the first half increased by 80% on the same period last year, which was itself a record. The volume of sales has shown the expected growth, and cash flow remains very healthy. The trends of sales and margins are expected to continue firm for the remainder of this financial year, and the Board anticipates a satisfactory increase in second half profits.

Letraset International Limited
St George's House, 195 Waterloo Road
London SE1 8XJ

Employees in the UK

abroad

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Controlling the agents is the problem

INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY: 1, THE FERROUS FOUNDRIES

A new mix in the melting pot

proke, the Government. The Government is not particularly easy to market outside South Africa and as a general investment house, last year gold and uranium accounted for 43 per cent of investment income and industrial for 21 per cent compared with 58 per cent and 14 per cent respectively the previous year—it could quite easily be fully absorbed into Anglo without much upset in the market.

A full take-over (perhaps by a 2 or 24-for-1 share swap) would allow Anglo to consolidate fully, which would nicely beef up the balance sheet. It would also have a beneficial spin off on De Beers (which holds 40 per cent of Randels) and Carter Consolidated (which has one per cent of Randels and 10 per cent of Anglo).

Whatever happens, Anglo should avoid having the kind of ugly scrap in which Union Carbide, for example, was involved over Geduld Investments.

In short, Dunford has still to bridge the credibility gap that past years' misfortunes have dug between its management and shareholders. Price movements in the next few days will show whether this latest Dunford argument has managed to overcome this problem. If it does not, J & F's bid will succeed.

Letrasat

The yield drawback

Rehabilitation of its growth status has been done nothing less than a market rating and the shares, moving much in line with the market over the last six months, only managed a 2p rise to 78p yesterday despite the 80 per cent jump in first half pre-tax profits to £2.8m.

True, the underlying earnings are somewhat flattered, currency gains account for £300,000 of the rise—and this could well be eroded by the year-end if sterling continues its new-found strength—while the group's mounting cash balances, up another £1m to almost £4.5m in the first half, brought in another £1m or so at the pre-tax level.

Otherwise, it has been a matter of Letrasat continuing to benefit from the volume upturn that got under way in the middle of last year—this accounting for almost a third of the £2.8m sales increase—and its ability to get price rises through fairly promptly.

Strongest areas geographically have been Europe and the United States, with the closure of the manufacturing base in Japan helping to cut losses there, though this has meant a small rise in the tax charge to 55.4 per cent.

However, Letrasat's success is proving something of a handicap, with cash flow rising at a faster rate than the opportunities to diversify. Openings in the commercial sector are few and far between while the recent frustration of its efforts to expand in artists' materials via the takeover of Winsor & Newton has stunted its ambitions at home for the moment.

Whether the future was without its bright side with Letrasat netting £150,000 from the sale of Winsor stake.

With the sales recovery now levelling out Letrasat's second-half performance will not be as strong as the first, though the group should manage at least £6m for the year for a prospective p/e ratio of 61. But, until it finds some way of loosening its 7 times covered dividend, a 51 per cent yield will remain the chief inhibiting factor.

Interim: 1976-77 (1975-76)

Sales £13.4m (£10.2m)

Pre-tax profits £2.8m (£1.6m)

Dividend gross 1.26p (0.6p)

Dunford & Elliott

The credibility gap remains

Dunford & Elliott has produced impressive first quarter results to back up its forecast of £5m pre-tax profits this year and a fully diluted earnings of 19p a share. Pre-tax profits in the first three months totalled £1.1m against the forecast of £1.3m, the bonus coming from the depressed scrap price.

Dunford argues that it has the capacity, the demand and the scope in terms of profit margins to achieve its forecast. And it dismissed comments by Johnson & Firth Brown about its past inability to match forecasts. Is there, therefore, still a case for Johnson & Firth Brown's bid?

The Dunford share price helps provide an answer. Up 2p, 52p yesterday, in line with J & F's one for one share bid but below the effective value of that bid including the additional 11p per share available through J & F's offer for Dunford's preference stock, the shares stand at an increase of only 10p since Dunford's forecast is accurate and, if it argues, its forecast underpins a wider recovery in its fortunes permitting de-gearing and generation of sufficient working capital to loosen the bonds of its bankers.

In short, Dunford has still to bridge the credibility gap that past years' misfortunes have dug between its management and shareholders. Price movements in the next few days will show whether this latest Dunford argument has managed to overcome this problem. If it does not, J & F's bid will succeed.

Allied Breweries

The big spend

However laudable in social terms, Allied Breweries' decision to invest some £164m over the next two years—as against an annual average of £35m over the past three years—was bound to have the market boggling a bit; and the shares put up a subdued performance yesterday, rising by a mere 1p to 64 1/2p, while the rest of the market romped away. The misgivings centre, naturally, on what such a level of spending will do to the balance sheet, and the answer, inevitably, is that it will put the level of borrowings up. Against a period when profits were depressed by an inter-union dispute, however, Allied has now entered a year in which they are set to rise by over 20 per cent and cash flow will reflect the benefits even after allowing for what are, in the first instance, likely to be the disproportionate costs of servicing the shares issued in connection with the Teachers' acquisition.

In fact, Allied is budgeting for cash flow of around £50m this year, after allowing for property realizations and higher working capital requirements, so that the planned level of capital spending assumes an initial cash flow of £50m to end-year borrowings.

Given higher retentions, the implication is that gearing at the end of the two-year programme is not likely to be much higher than the 49 per cent of last September, and by that stage its benefits will be flowing through quite strongly into profits.

In the meantime, of course, profits will not be as high as they would otherwise have been: for one year's borrowing of £50m is going to cost the group some pre-tax at current rates, which will have to fall substantially to prevent financing costs from rising. Still, there is nothing in all this to suggest that Allied will have to come to the market, either for a rights issue or which the group disclaims any intention) or for the sale of the Trust Houses Forte stake, now worth some £26m.

American

ries on a Isel deal

merican Corporation is characteristically righter why it and Rand requested their quotes suspended. So in the of any official en- sure there are many a but financial of to go on—save Rand- y dramatic share price and the suspensions s. r, since not even a ding statement has ng in favour of if rationalization, of and/or a partial take- er than a full scale although the latter ould have much to id it.

seems for a change may e from Randels' o move into Schlesin- om the gradual move ing world to simplify d holdings—the tip of waven Anglo iceberg en to view is complex uthout delving below rline. But neither is exclusive.

ized and aimed for high plant utilization, are said to have found benefits both for customers and for themselves. Foundries have tended to under-invest. The age of melting plant averages 20 years, that of sand plant 15 years and fettling plant 12. This is in spite of evidence that the economic life of such units is really much shorter.

Part of the problem has been uneconomic pricing and the power of buyers. Sometimes castings have been priced according to weight, not allowing for complexity of manufacture, length of run, testing and so on.

The impact of highly amplified order cycles, with unrealistically long order books and long delivery dates in times of boom is a big problem. So, too, is over-ordering or frequent design and pattern changes that add to lead times. The supply of quality scrap is a big headache.

On thing is clear. The industrial strategy review has made many people think more deeply about their industry. That 233 applications for investment aid have been received by the Department of Industry is a sign that the talk is being backed by action.

Maurice Corina

industry is in any better shape now to respond to demands placed on it in a revival.

At the last count there were 745 iron foundries with a gross output of £835m, producing more than three million tonnes of castings. To these must be added some 80 steel foundries with an annual gross output of £172m, delivering more than a quarter of a million tonnes. Together they employ about 100,000 workers, a drop of 40,000 or so since 1963.

Foundries are not pleasant places of work and they seem to have a high incidence of accidents, as well as more than their fair share of industrial disputes. One thing achieved by the strategy review has been a new lease of life on manpower problems as well as the issues of finance, investment, materials supplies and so on.

In tonnage terms the output of ferrous foundries has been in decline, with strong competition from substitute materials and from both direct and indirect imports.

An economic development team, led by an independent chairman, Mr. K. Cornfield, deputy chairman of Standard Telephones and Cables, is concentrating the industry's attention on a wide range of issues. The main problem as perceived by customers is the supply difficulties, including unreliable delivery. There is little overall shortage of physical capacity, except at peak times, but much of it is old, with poor working environments.

So the introduction of an aid scheme under section 8 of the Industry Act is seen as having a direct impact on out-of-date plant, providing a better service to customers, raising employee morale and opening up export markets, particularly for machined castings.

The provision of more modern capacity comes at a time when import penetration is said to be small, but dangers need to be anticipated. Modern capacity is being expanded in such countries as Japan, Thailand, Singapore, Mexico and Spain and some types of castings are starting to enter Britain from sources like these at competitive prices.

In the past too many foundries saw their job as supplying castings on a commodity basis rather than selling components. With few exceptions (pipes, ingot moulds and construction items) castings are sent for incorporation into other machinery and plant. Companies which have special-

ized and aimed for high plant utilization, are said to have found benefits both for customers and for themselves. Foundries have tended to under-invest. The age of melting plant averages 20 years, that of sand plant 15 years and fettling plant 12. This is in spite of evidence that the economic life of such units is really much shorter.

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Maurice Corina

How the wholesalers are finding friendship in the corner shop

The climate in retail grocery, where the emphasis with all the supermarket leaders and hypermarkets, makes Linfood Holdings' purchase of a chain of small grocery stores through Gateway Securities seem a curious move.

The reasoning behind the acquisition becomes clearer if it is viewed in the context of recent developments by other groups, such as Booker McConnell and Wheatsheaf Distribution & Trading, which have areas of business similar to those of Linfood. But for the full picture to become apparent it is necessary to go further back down the retail distribution pipeline into the wholesale area.

For all these companies have extensive food wholesaling interests dealing with independent grocers, small multiples and the voluntary symbol groups, such as Spar, VG and Mace. The major supermarket multiples—Tesco, Sainsbury and the rest—either run their own wholesale depots or, increasingly, take supplies direct from the manufacturers as required.

Although the multiples' share of total grocery trade, valued at £7,500m in 1975 by the Economist Intelligence Unit, has grown rapidly, independent grocers, with sales estimated during the same year at £2,800m, remain an important component. Four companies (Tesco, Cavenham, Sainsbury, and International) account for the rest of the quarter of all grocery turnover and their scope for making economies of scale is proportionately large.

The independents, which have been under severe pressure not just from the multiples and hypermarkets but from the stringencies affecting small businesses in general, have been forced to seek similar savings wherever they can. Nor all have succeeded, however.

The EIU estimates that nearly a quarter of independent grocery stores disappeared between 1961 and 1971 to leave a total of 77,500 outlets. Since then, particularly during the past two years, the rate of shop closures generally has accelerated.

In the multiple and co-operative sector, the intensity of Grocery Distribution issued results last month indicating that the rate of closures during the year ending April, 1976, was the lowest ever recorded.

In order to resist the general pressures independent grocers have increasingly turned to the voluntary trading groups for help. These were formed by independent retailers, who, working with a group of wholesalers, clubbed together to pool buying and marketing resources.

The success of this method of trading can be measured by its growth. From their start in Britain in the early 1960s the voluntary groups share of total grocery trade has increased to more than 20 per cent, while that of unaffiliated independents fell from about 40 per cent to less than 17 per cent between 1961 to 1975.

The indication during the past year has been that the voluntary groups have made further gains by picking up new members among the shops shed by the multiples.

Behind the voluntary groups, the largest of which are VG, Spar and Mace, whose trading names and symbols are familiar all over Britain, lie wholesalers like Linfood, whose names are almost unknown by the general public.

While there are no formal written contracts between wholesalers and retail members of a voluntary group there is a strong "gentleman's agreement" that the retailer will buy all the goods he needs from the group wholesaler. In return he obtains a variety of services, some free and some for which a charge is made.

These include collective advertising and an advisory service on store management, including loans and insurance cover.

The theory behind the arrangement is that, given a large stable demand for goods assured by the retailers' commitment to buy mainly from the group, the wholesaler can get better terms from manufacturers and pass these on to the retailer. Also, by helping the retailers to increase their own turnover the wholesalers themselves benefit.

A process of rationalization similar to that which occurred among multiple retailers in the late 1960s and early 1970s has taken place among the wholesalers. Linfood Holdings was formed after a series of amalgamations, ending in late 1974

food already owned 166 stores which trade under the Spar banner.

Like its existing stores, Linfood's new purchases have an average trading area of 5,000 sq ft, which is about half the average size of the new stores being opened by the multiples.

Because of its better knowledge of operating small grocery stores, Mr. Linnell is confident about future prospects for Gateway. Should any of the Gateway shops prove uneconomic as part of a chain, Linfood is exceptionally well placed with Spar to transfer to a franchise basis, if, for instance, the store manager is prepared to "go independent" or to find a successor if he is not.

Linfood is also well aware that the acquisition of Gateway brings new customers to its warehouses.

Looking further to the future, the Gateway deal gives Linfood a 28.9 per cent share stake in Bishop's Stores, a family-controlled company based in Middlesex, which not only operates 60 or so stores but is also a wholesaler supplier to

VG, another of the large voluntary groups.

Mr. Linnell admits that the holding in Bishop's offers an interesting possibility, but stresses that he regards full cooperation by the management of any operation he acquires as of great importance.

Linfood's reasoning is evident from similar to that of Booker McConnell. Like Linfood, this group has an extensive direct delivery grocery wholesale trade as well as cash and carry warehouses among its many other interests.

It is the biggest single supplier to Mace, one of the three largest voluntary groups, and, with the purchase of Kinloch (Provision Merchants) late last year, it also acquired an entry to Wary Line, another, smaller group.

Also like Linfood, Booker McConnell has built up a substantial chain of small grocery retail stores. With Budget & Company it acquired 158 stores in December it added a further 65 through the purchase of Kinloch.

A third big wholesale supplier to the voluntary groups is Wheatsheaf Distribution & Trading. Although it is better known for its Carrefour hypermarket activities at the opposite end of the retail scale, about 40 per cent of Wheatsheaf's trade comes from servicing about 2,000 retail members of the VG voluntary chain.

Unlike Linfood and Booker McConnell, Wheatsheaf has placed out its ownership of smaller grocery stores (at one time it owned 60). Mr. E. Aylett, Moore, Wheatsheaf's chairman, says he believes strongly in the future of the private sector in grocery retailing.

Besides their extensive involvement in "direct delivery" wholesaling the three companies are also deeply engaged in the cash and carry side of wholesale distribution. About half of Wheatsheaf's trade comes from this sector and about a third of Linfood's business comes from

33 cash and carry warehouses operating under the Value Centre name.

The cash and carry trade, according to the A.C. Nielsen market research company, turned over £1,116m in the year ending January, 1975, relies heavily on business from unaffiliated independent traders.

Although some experts believe that the tide is now starting to turn, cash and carry operators have generally suffered from static or declining sales in the last few years.

Mr. Linnell, of Linfood, is nevertheless optimistic that cash and carry business have a stable long-term future. By extension of trade into non-food areas, such as toys, alcoholic drinks, textiles and so on he also envisages expansion by attracting new types of customer.

"In the South-east for instance," he says, "bingo halls are very valuable customers of Linfood's cash and carry trade."

However, the main immediate growth area for a group of Linfood's structure rests clearly with the voluntary groups of small grocery stores.

Will they contain some chains under common ownership (such as those run by Linfood and Booker McConnell) the voluntary group stores are typically family-owned and family-run businesses mainly in residential areas and local shopping centres.

As such, they do not necessarily compete with the larger and medium-sized supermarket multiples in the high street, which the latest research indicates have been the most vulnerable to competition from super stores and hypermarkets trading with lower operational costs on the outskirts of towns and offering keener prices.

Present thinking, in a variety of quarters, is that the small corner grocery shop has as much a place in the future of retailing as has the hypermarket.

Business Diary: Soccer pitch • Unto this last

"Trident Television has had a most successful year"

us to be seen whether a few British national teams will be in Buenos Aires for the final of the cup in the summer of 1978, one English national team has already been selected. This is West Nally, a marketing consultancy, a won the contract to stadium and publicising on behalf of the Swiss-based international body.

Nally is the consulting director, and it is Peter West, the commentator and this ugly correspondent. Says that although the key to do little more at even on the couch involves guaranteeing to 20th century (about £4.1m) the rest would come from a contract with the themselves for the cup symbol and

Whether British shoemakers are back where they started depends upon whether Whitehall and the industry take up the recommendation agreed by steering group members.

This is for a new permanent body, with representatives both from Whitehall and the industry, including those like leather makers and component manufacturers not directly represented on the steering group.

Figures to be released next month are likely to show that imports now account for about four tenths of the British market, although there are signs of improved exports, particularly of quality footwear.

A job that was once held by AUEW president Hugh Scanton and also by the former Labour Chancellor Lord (now Lord) Lee has just changed hands again—after three decades. The chairmanship of the powerful trade union works committee at GEC's big heavy engineering factory at Trafford Park, Manchester, has been held for a record-breaking 30 years by 72-year-old Bert Brennan. Now he has decided to retire and will be succeeded by 56-year-old machine tool setter Alec Green, an AUEW convenor and member of the works committee for the past 10 years.

Desk-bound

Business people checking in for flights at Copenhagen international airport are getting more smoothly through the formalities than at most other European airports. This is because of years ago agreement of industry steering id an industry steering id George Marriott, s soon to be wound up.

le charge

was, it will be red, a little old woman i in a shoe, who had children she didn't s to do the British foot- dustry as that old then the nursery escribed rather well ition of British shoe- s imports began to ear British market, without ing any central body nse response.

a couple of years ago ment of industry steering id an industry steering id George Marriott, s soon to be wound up.

industry and spend them on hotels, casinos, marinas, amusement centres and so on.

Ver Wyatt's proposals are not as revolutionary as they appear, for some 50 years ago the Earl of Carnarvon, then Lord Porchester, put up a similar proposal for an off-course state monopoly to Sir Winston Churchill when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer.

In his memoirs, No Regrets, the earl, father of the present Lord Forchester, the Queen's racing manager, says of his proposal: "Thus the country's vast expenditure on betting would be controlled by a central organization and the profits therefrom be reinvested in the industry with increased prize money and innumerable other benefits well as producing revenue for the Chancellor of the Exchequer."

The idea did not get very far and, when the earl suggested that all book-makers should be abolished except for those operating on-course, Sir Winston is recorded as retorting: "I shall never be a party to such a suggestion!"

"Why should I, a staunch upholder of democracy, deprive any man of earning an honest living. I might throw about half a million people out of work and I have no intention of doing so."

A reader whose Renault car broke down tells us that when she telephoned the importer's West London garage and asked them to tow it in for repair she was told they could not—their breakdown truck had broken down. She went to another garage.

Also ran?

In evidence to the Royal Commission on Gambling, the Horserace Totalisator (Tote) Board is suggesting that it should have a monopoly of off-course betting and the bookies should be allowed a piece of the action only when it comes to on-course betting.

The Tote submission was enough to knock the shares of Ladbrokes and Coral, which both have large book-making interests. But most of the resultant hostility has been directed at Woodrow Wyatt, the Tote chairman.

He has said that "the privately-owned book-makers suck out profits from the racing

Word Thomas, CEO, Trident Television Limited

	Year ended 30th Sept. 1976	Year ended 30th Sept. 1975
Turnover	£400	£300
Profit before Taxation	47,178	33,880
Earnings per Share	4,826	2,092
Dividend per Share	6.1 pence	2.5 pence
	2.3 pence	2.1 pence

A final dividend of 1.615 pence per share, together with the interim dividend already paid, makes a total dividend for the year of 2.322 pence per share (1975: 2.111 pence).

REVENUE, PROFITS UP

"Trident has had a most successful year," states Mr. G. E. Ward Thomas, Chairman of Trident Television Limited, in his Report for the year. "Television advertising revenue has been buoyant, moving up to second place among the ITV contractors. Our Australian enterprise has developed to the point at which we begin to see a return on our investment and our other interests have also substantially improved their profits."

Pre-tax profit for the year ended 30th September 1976 was £4.82 million (1975: £2.09 million) and net earnings per share increased to 6.1 pence (2.5 pence).

PROSPECTS

"We are currently forecasting a further increase in revenue and, despite increasing costs, we anticipate a further improvement in results both from television and from our other interests in the UK and overseas."

Mr. Thomas commented that Trident continued to maintain its strong liquid position, and that the time was appropriate to utilise funds for further acquisition.

"All in all, I am confident that 1977 will be another year of successful growth for your Company," he added.

Annual Report available from: Trident House, Brooks Mews, W1Y 1LF

Trident Television Limited

Nationalized industry prices rising faster than in private sector

By Malcolm Brown

A retail price index of nationalized industry prices over the 15 years 1960 to 1975 rose much faster than a comparable index compiled for total retail prices, according to a study released yesterday by the National Economic Development Office.

The study, one of three background papers published as supplements to the NEDO study of state industries produced last November, says that the retail price index of nationalized industry products rose by 8.4 per cent per annum during the period under review, against 7.2 per cent for the total retail price index.

But NEDO gives warning that the direct role of state industries in the inflationary process should not be exaggerated. "Their contribution, as a percentage in the total increase in retail price inflation, was little more than 8 per cent and this was only slightly greater than the volume share of nationalized industry products in total consumer expenditure."

The report finds that price restraint and subsidies to state industries may help mitigate wage and price inflation, but there may be less desirable effects.

"If offsetting reductions are not made," it says, "subsidies imply an increase in government expenditure. If this increase cannot be financed by increased taxation, sale of government securities or overseas borrowing, an increase in money supply will result. This will, in turn, have monetarist argument, increase inflation and, even under the institutionalists' argument, it could increase excess demand for

labour, lead to an increase in unit militancy and, consequently, increase the rate of wage inflation."

Subsidies will also cause misallocation of resources, says the study, if used to maintain activity in an inefficient sector.

The other two papers published yesterday cover the relationships of state industries with other sectors of the economy, and exports and imports.

Discussing the relationships which have evolved with other sectors, the NEDO says the nationalized industries are particularly important as suppliers of intermediate products.

Sales to private consumers are also more important than for the average manufacturing industry. In 1971, for example, more than 30 per cent of the output of gas, electricity, coal, railways and ports and telecommunications went to personal consumers; the average for manufacturing industry was below 40 per cent.

The final study shows that both British Airways and the British Steel Corporation are major foreign exchange earners and large importers.

For railways, foreign earnings represent more than half of total receipts, and net foreign exchange earnings have varied between 20 and 28 per cent of gross output since 1960.

4 Study of Nationalized Industries. Background Papers. No. 5. Price Behaviour. No. 6. Relationships with other sectors of the economy. Both available price £1.50 each—£1.69 postage paid.

7. Exports and Imports. Price £1.50—£1.69 postage paid.

from NEDO Books, 1 Steel House, 11 Tottel Street, London SW1 9LJ.

Bonn urged to safeguard textile jobs

Bonn, Jan. 18.—The German textile industry needed protection against the influx of cheap and favoured imports from developing countries as well as immediate tax concessions to expand or even to stay competitive.

Herr Wilhelm Hardt, president of the Textile Industry Association, said today at the annual meeting.

Herr Hardt cited imports of Turkish cotton yarn and Italian pantyhose as examples of textile imports that were directly or indirectly subsidized by their governments.

He also mentioned imports from South Korea, Taiwan and Brazil which receive favourable treatment under the terms of the World Trade Agreement.

Herr Delley Rohwedder, state secretary of the Federal Economics Ministry, who attended the meeting, responded to Herr Hardt's comments by saying that the federal government was continuing to negotiate against dumped imports according to the terms of binding agreements.

However, in some cases, as with the Italian pantyhose, it was difficult to prove any violation.

Regarding the World Textile Agreement, Herr Rohwedder felt it would be better to renew the agreement, due to expire at the end of this year, under its present form.

Figures released by the textile association indicated that orders to the German textile makers rose an estimated 6 per cent in real terms in 1976, while production was up an estimated 10 per cent. For the first 11 months, German textile exports were up 23.8 per cent from the same period in 1975.

Imports rose only 15.9 per cent to DM16,765m.

Herr Hardt noted that a recent survey of the industry indicated that the annual spending for 1977 should reach last year's level of just over DM1,000m.

Subsidence raises cost of insurance

Many householders who claim from their insurance companies because their homes have been affected by subsidence will have to meet more of the repair costs themselves.

This is the result of changes being made by the companies to the wording of their policies—the result of an enormous increase in subsidence claims caused by last summer's drought.

The change, however, will not affect the thousands of householders who have already put in claims. Because of the contractual nature of insurance policies, the tougher subsidence clause cannot be inserted until existing policies come up for renewal.

Under the old wording, householders were in most cases liable to pay the first 3 per cent of the insured value of a house and the insurance company met the rest of the repair bills. But because this basis penalized those who were insured properly and benefited those who were underinsured, the companies are now to make householders pay the first 3 per cent of the rebuilding cost of the house.

Because the rebuilding cost of a house is often much higher than either the market value or the sum insured, the householders' 3 per cent will also be higher.

The insurance companies have seen subsidence claims soar in the past two years. In 1976 alone they estimate claims will total about £65m, each claim averaging about £3,000.

The first company to go ahead with the change is the Sun Alliance, which has operated the new clause since January 1 on new policies and which will apply it to existing policies as they come up for renewal.

All the other main companies are expected to follow suit.

Sun Alliance is altering the excess clause from 3 per cent to 5 per cent, and the sum insured, whichever is greater, to 3 per cent of the rebuilding cost, or £250.

Millspaugh men get jobs

Ronald Kershaw, the Sheffield engineering company, which announced its closure on Monday was yesterday "inundated" with inquiries from other groups looking for skilled and semi-skilled workers.

A spokesman for the company, which is part of the United Kingdom subsidiary of the Swiss Grubler Subzer Group, said there would be little trouble finding alternative work for at least two thirds of the 362 hourly paid workers affected.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Index clears 375, scoring 23 points in four days

Against a background of favourable economic news, the buyers were out in force and the fourth day running share prices made good progress.

The main incentives for investors were Monday's trade figures and the prospect of a significant rise in the Minimum Lending Rate at the end of the week. The FT Index, 7.3 up at 11 am, rallied from an earlier note in the early afternoon to close 6.7 at 381.1, a gain of more than 23 points over the last four sessions.

A point of encouragement for some was that the index

had gone above 375, a point often seen as the market's upper limit by those who think little progress will be made until later this year.

Coverment bonds had another good day, with heavy

turnover in all sections of the market. Short-dated stocks advanced very sharply in the morning and closed up to a point higher on the day, with a eighth of a point of their best.

Widespread confidence that interest rates would fall, together with some signs of overseas interest, ensured a strong market.

"Mediums" were also stronger and there was also good demand for the long-dated stocks. Gains in "longs" ranged up to 1.3 of a point, in exceptionally heavy trading.

The long-dated stocks closed at around their peak for the day. Hopes for a recovery in the industry and high yields brought some good gains to the building sector, where the best was Johnson-Richards, Tilted up 14p to 160p, Tilbury Contracting 13p to 206p, Marchwell 7p to 127p, Taylor Woodrow 6p to 254p, BVB 5p to 132p, AP Cement 5p to 171p and Concrete 4p to 49p.

But Jarvis & Arnold were left 3p lower at 107p after a bid denial.

Ahead of results today, Rank ended unchanged at 158p, after touching 162p, but elsewhere in the sector EMI added 7p to 226p and Chloride 2p to 99p.

Reynolds Parsons were lowered

21p to 131p on union opposition to possible power station mergers.

Among the "blue chips", the strongest spots were to be found in Glaxo, better by 12p to 423p, Unilever 10p to 434p, Pilkington 9p to 302p, Becton 8p to 396p and Courtaulds 4p to 103p.

But ICI, though the busiest counter of the day, was hit by heavy trading and closed at an unchanged 357p.

In spite of reports that the New Year sales claims were extravagant and some disappointing sales figures, stores continued to be in demand with Mothercare gaining 8p to 216p, Boots 7p to 129p, GUS "A" 6p to 185p, WH Smith "A" 4p to 354p and House of Fraser 3p to 80p.

After the terms from Lintor, Gateway "A" rose another 11p to 59p, with Bishop's

Stores, where Gateway has a stake, 3p to the good at 75p.

Food issues also attracted demand, notably Rowntree, which spurred 12p to 315p after a late run. Sale Thiney up 7p to 117p, Booker McConnell 6p to 144p and Sainsbury 5p to 130p.

Best of the engineers were Weyburn 14p ahead to 360p after last week's figures. Dowty 6p to 103p, Tube Investments 4p to 334p and APV 5p to 282p.

The annual meeting of Bass Charrington, up 3p to 99p, brought interest to the drinks sector with Guinness 3p to the good at 128p after its report.

Allied firm at 6p after news of a big expansion plan. But firmest of all was Vaux with a rise of 10p to 245p. Tea shares also went ahead with McLeod Russell gaining 7p to 135p and Lunova 15p to 83p.

Speculative stocks continued to attract attention with Bristol Stadium adding 3p to 11p after news that the Scots Restaurant stake had risen to more than 10 per cent.

Fox's Biscuits better at 102p on fresh bid hopes and Lyle Shipping 10p to the good at 132p. Late in the day, FMC was very firm and finally closed 13p better at 72p on renewed hopes of terms from Borthwick.

Common Brothers reacted 7p to 183p on profit-taking.

The possibility of timber prices being referred to the Monopolies Commission did not stop M. L. Meyer rising 1p to 48p and Magnet Southern 3p to 130p.

Hickson & Welch continued to be helped by last week's figures and were 12p to the good at 345p at one point.

In the financial sector, the clearing banks ended at, or just below, their overnight levels, but there were two good spots to be found in Hill Samuel 4p to 67p and Smith St Aubyn 4p to 67p.

Demand for property shares was selective, but there were gains from Apex 8p to 132p, Hammonds "A" 7p to 350p, Haslemere 7p to 172p and Guildhall 6p to 60p.

In oils, BP rose 6p to 820p, Lasso 10p to 290p, while

Burmah, with some thinki share, look expensive, unchanged at 52p. After fi Trident TV rose 31p to 100p but F. Wrighton lost 2p to 100p.

Equity turnover on Janu was £58.60m (12,923 barg According to Exchange

There is now some doubt whether Anglo Group's doc outlining its 25p a share l Williams Hudson was s within the required 28 d the bid announcement of Year's Eve. Anglo is belie have asked the Takeover for an extension, althou Pamela would not commu night. One report sugg delay lies with the Ba England, whose conse required, but this may b of the mark. The shares unmoved at 24p.

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Heron goes like a bomb as it stalks Henlys

By Richard Allen

Heron Motor Group lifted pre-tax profits 51 per cent in the first six months to September 30 and business is still "going like a bomb" according to Mr Peter S. Reynolds, chairman.

The Heron Corporation's 75 per cent owned subsidiary which breached the £1m profits mark for the first time last year lifted its pre-tax profits to £537,000 from £355,000 in the same period.

The interim dividend goes up from 2.17p gross to 2.38p. Last year's total was 4.4p.

Mr Reynolds reported that nearly all activities throughout the United Kingdom continue to be in the black. Particularly strong improvements were seen in both new and used car sales.

New car sales amounted to something like £24m despite continuing difficulties in obtaining new vehicles from British Leyland and to a lesser extent Rolls-Royce. The group believes that it could easily have lifted this figure by a further £9m if the cars had been forthcoming.

The recently launched truck and van rental division continued strongly but truck sales were again disappointing, reflecting low industrial investment.

Heron still refuses to be drawn on the question of its 26.7 per cent stake in rival motor group Henlys. Heron bought 25.6 per cent of Henlys from Brown Brothers Corporation last October for £1.84m—a price of 67p a share compared with the market price then of 55p.

Later the same month Heron picked up 40,000 shares in the market, fuelling talk that a bid possibly involving the parent Heron Corporation was in the offing.

However, Mr Reynolds said yesterday: "We regarded the shares as a first-class investment. We will continue to consider the situation and take action when and as we see fit."

With Henlys' shares closing at 84p last night Heron is already showing a paper profit of over £450,000 on its purchase from Brown Brothers.

The Takeover Panel has issued a statement advising companies involved in legal proceedings in takeover offers.

It says that if the board of an offered company contemplates such proceedings in relation to an offer, the prospective offeror problems may in some cases arise under the Code.

"The board would therefore be well advised in such a case to consult the Panel before any action is taken," it adds.

Deborah Services, a specialist scaffolding and insulation group, has had "another successful half year". Pre-tax profits rose 6 per cent to £340,000 and turnover climbed 7 per cent to £3.1m.

Mr A. L. Linton, chairman, says that the group's gross revenue expanded from £2.5m to £3.0m and that the group's net income rose from £1.2m to £1.5m.

The group, whose shares are traded over the counter, is now contributing to profits.

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Status still has plenty of stamina

Looking more like its old self every year, Hull based Status Discount, the paint and wallpaper discount chain which plunged into losses in 1974 after an excursion into kitchens, carpets and furniture, foresees continued progress.

But the return to Status must mean that this progress will be more rapid from now on.

From 1974's losses of £33,000 the group moved swiftly to pre-tax profits of £367,000 in 1974-75. Unabashed, it then more than doubled them to £758,724 in the year to November 30 last. Sales climbed a fifth to £12.1m.

But the first six months saw the long profits leap. Then they strode from £95,000 to £315,000, leaving a respectable £442,000 for the second half year.

It looks, however, if Status can at last think of regaining the heights of 1971-72 and the year after, when profits were £927,000 and £1.3m. But the directors do not say as much.

Five big stores opened last year and three more will do so this year.

Extraordinary items were smaller last year indicating that property provisions are indeed in the past. Earnings a share rose from 2.61p to 3.15p and a final dividend of 1.5p gross takes the total to the maximum of 2.5p.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

ing final puts in and trim

in record sales and best-ever profits for national Telephone & Cable, a particularly strong performance in the final year of the economic cycle, says Mr Harold chairman, is proof that the company is under way before extraordinary up 23 per cent to \$3.95 a share. Sales rose \$11.400m to

overseas

growth which had been by the 1974-75 re-signing of financial assets in five years, and in the United States, operations turned significantly and strong was made in other key areas. These sales in automotive and consumer goods. The board hopes of its entry into production through its acquisition of Carbon

loss provision

icorp, the parent company of the Ciba Group, reports increase in the fourth of 1976 and also for the first quarter of 1977. In the fourth quarter, income increased from \$111.6m and from 60 cents a share. For the first quarter, income rose from \$104.5m and earnings by 13.8 per cent

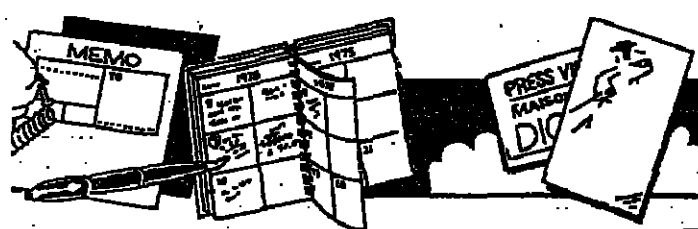
bank said that the increase in the final quarter reflected the reduction in the first quarter losses on its fall from \$115.1m to \$11.8m.

bond prices (midday indicators)

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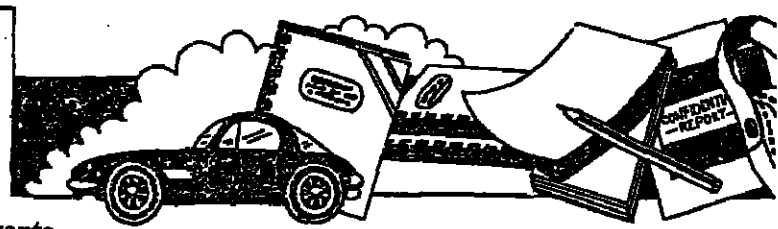
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Jan 17. Dealings End, Jan 28. \$ Contango Day, Jan 31. Settlement Day, Feb 1. \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

مَكْنَزٌ مِنَ الْأَصْلِ



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If you are a mature secretary prepared to work largely on your own initiative, this responsible position could bring you the job satisfaction you are seeking.

Based at GAF's UK Headquarters you will handle an interesting variety of confidential tasks on behalf of the Financial Controller and Company Secretary. Your duties will include the administration of staff pensions/life assurance schemes, and BUPA, so previous experience of similar work would be a distinct advantage.

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To fill each of these vacancies, an experienced Secretary is needed with good typing and shorthand skills. Starting salary in excess of £3,000 p.a., 25-hour week, good holidays and other benefits.

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The Managing Director of a leading Publishing Company of Medical Journals and Books which is developing wider interests in medical technology and health care needs a highly capable Personal Assistant. She or he will run his office and help maintain good relationships with a large circle of contacts in the business and academic worlds at home and overseas. The successful applicant must have excellent typing and shorthand skills, although there will be a Shorthand/Typist in the office whom the P.A. will recruit. The person appointed, aged about 30, will be highly experienced in posts of similar responsibility at top level and have outstanding references. There are excellent opportunities for progress.

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10. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 278: 1039-1044.